**ACROSS** / A15

**Aeta is first law grad**
in her tribe; first legal analyst at Clark

**METRO** / A19

**Car theft syndicate busted**
after stealing 63 vehicles from car rental firm

**WORLD** / A21

**Israel warns Gaza**
militants: Sky will fall on you

**2BU!** / C1

**Bench fever turns**
jam-packed coliseum into sexy dance floor

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
Wednesday, July 5, 2006 ★★ 6 sections / Vol. 21 / No. 207 P18 website: www.inq7.net

### 'Borra may be sued before impeachment'

**By Norman Bordadora**

THE OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN CAN FILE charges in the Sandiganbayan against officials of the Commission on Elections found liable for the botched billion-peso election computerization deal, a former Comelec chair said yesterday.

Christian Monsod, who served as Comelec chair from June 1991 to February 1995, said

BORRA/ A6

### Expect no kindness, lawyers tell 'Nicole'

**By Volt Contreras**

WHEN "NICOLE" TAKES THE WITNESS STAND tomorrow, she will "expect no kindness."

The 22-year-old complainant in the Subic rape case was yesterday given this fundamental piece of advice by her lawyers as she prepared to take the stand for her first public confrontation with the four US Marines who allegedly

EXPECT NO/ A4

# Calderon is new PNP chief; Lomibao bows out

JOAN BONDOC

**PNP CHIEF** contender, Deputy Director for Operations Avelino Razon (left), loses out to Deputy Director General Oscar Calderon.

**By Luige A. del Puerto**

BEFORE THE CALL FROM MALACAÑANG came at around 7 a.m. yesterday, Oscar Calderon said it felt like it was "on the eve of your wedding day."

When finally his phone rang and he heard Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita tell him, "Congratulations ... Carry on," the Deputy Director General and second in command of the 118,000-strong Philippine National Police said he began to feel he was levitating.

"We are all veterans of battles, but the excitement and nervousness of waiting is different," Calderon said of his appointment by President Macapagal-Arroyo as the new PNP chief. "It was the

CALDERON/ A8

JOAN BONDOC

**HE'S HOT** as he exits; and so to bed.

### *'Mr. Cool' says goodbye with a song; he'll say hello soon*

**By Luige A. del Puerto**

STRUMMING A GUITAR AND belting out a 1960s John Denver song, the man who helped keep President Macapagal-Arroyo in power during the troublous "Garci" days said goodbye to his men hinting that he might be back in government.

No sooner had outgoing Philippine National Police Director General Arturo Lomibao's

MR. COOL/ A8

RETURN OF THE COMEBACK?!

# Reds' peace bid rejected

## Gov't sticks to war as NDF works out revival of talks in Norway

LYN RILLON

**PRESIDENT ARROYO** joins the celebration of the 47th Araw ng Lanao del Norte at the Mindanao Civic Center gymnasium in the capital town of Tubod on Tuesday.

**WEIGHT GAIN.** Joma Sison's latest photo shows he has put on a lot of extra pounds since he stopped smoking two years ago. This photo was taken at Amsterdam's Schipol Airport.

**By Christine O. Avendaño**

MALACAÑANG REmains committed to pursuing its all-out war against communist rebels even if exiled leaders of the communist-led National Democratic Front have asked Norway to convince President Macapagal-Arroyo to return to the negotiating table.

In a statement, the NDF said it had sent its top leadership to Oslo on Monday for four days of consultations with the Norwegian foreign ministry.

Norway had facilitated the peace talks between the Philippine government and the NDF before negotiations were scuttled in 2004.

The delegation is composed of NDF chief negotiator Luis Jalandoni, Fidel Agcaoili, Connie Ledesma, Julie de Lima and Asterio Palima.

Also present in the consultations are NDF chief political consultant Jose Ma. Sison, lawyer Romeo Capulong, NDF's senior legal adviser and NDF panel consultant Danilo Borjal.

"As far as we know the stance of government remains the same, which is no negotiations unless

REDS' PEACE/ A4

## AFP report backs claim of torture

**By Dona Z. Pazzibugan**

A MILITARY REPORT MADE PUBlic for the first time yesterday acknowledged that the five supporters of former President Joseph Estrada could have been tortured by their military captors.

The report, prepared by a four-man military investigating panel, for the first time also identified the agents of the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines linked to the alleged maltreatment.

The report named them as Lt. Col. Henry Robinson, former commander of the Military Intelligence Group 15; Navy Capt. Glen Celebrado; Army T/Sgt. Fred Randolf Calabines, Casino Ferrolino and Jeffrey Palenzuela; Army Sgt. Antonio Beloso III; Army Cpl. Raul Duran; and Yeoman Chief (YNC) Mariano Rapanot.

The report, whose publication had been withheld by the military, was released to media by the counsel for the so-called "Erap 5"—Ruben Dionisio, Virgilio Eustaquio, Dennis Ibona, Jim Cabautan, and Police Officer 3 Jose Curameng—during yesterday's pretrial investigation.

Quoting medical examination

AFP REPORT/ A6

## Gov't calls Danny Lim video the 'smoking gun'

**By Leila B. Salaverria and Dona Z. Pazzibugan**

A VIDEO SHOWING BRIG. GEN. Danilo Lim announcing withdrawal of support from President Macapagal-Arroyo during an abortive coup attempt in February has surfaced and could prove damaging to the sacked commander of the elite First Scout Ranger Regiment.

The Department of Justice announced yesterday it had obtained a copy of the controversial video, calling it a "smoking gun."

The video shows Lim seated at a table surrounded by uniformed soldiers as he read a statement. A transcript of the statement also was later released by the National Bureau of Investigation.

Earlier reports said that Lim's withdrawal of support from the President was to coincide with anti-Arroyo demonstrations marking the 20th anniversary of the People Power revolution.

Reynaldo Esmeralda, NBI regional director, said the agency was summoning Lim to determine if rebellion charges could be filed against him.

The 50-year-old Lim, confined to his quarters at Fort Bonifacio since February, was not immediately available for comment.

The DOJ announcement came after ANC television news aired the video just before midnight on Monday.

Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez said the video vindicated the Arroyo administration and proved that the issuance of Presidential Proclamation No. 1017 on Feb. 24 declaring a state of na-

GOV'T/ A6

## Fil-Am woman sues Brando estate executors

**"THE GODFATHER": The suit may uncover details of his final days still shrouded in mystery.** AP

LOS ANGELES—A WOMAN OF FILIPINO DEscent who was Marlon Brando's caregiver, companion and "majordomo" of his household in the last years of his life has sued the executors of his estate, claiming she was cheated out of a house that the actor promised to give her.

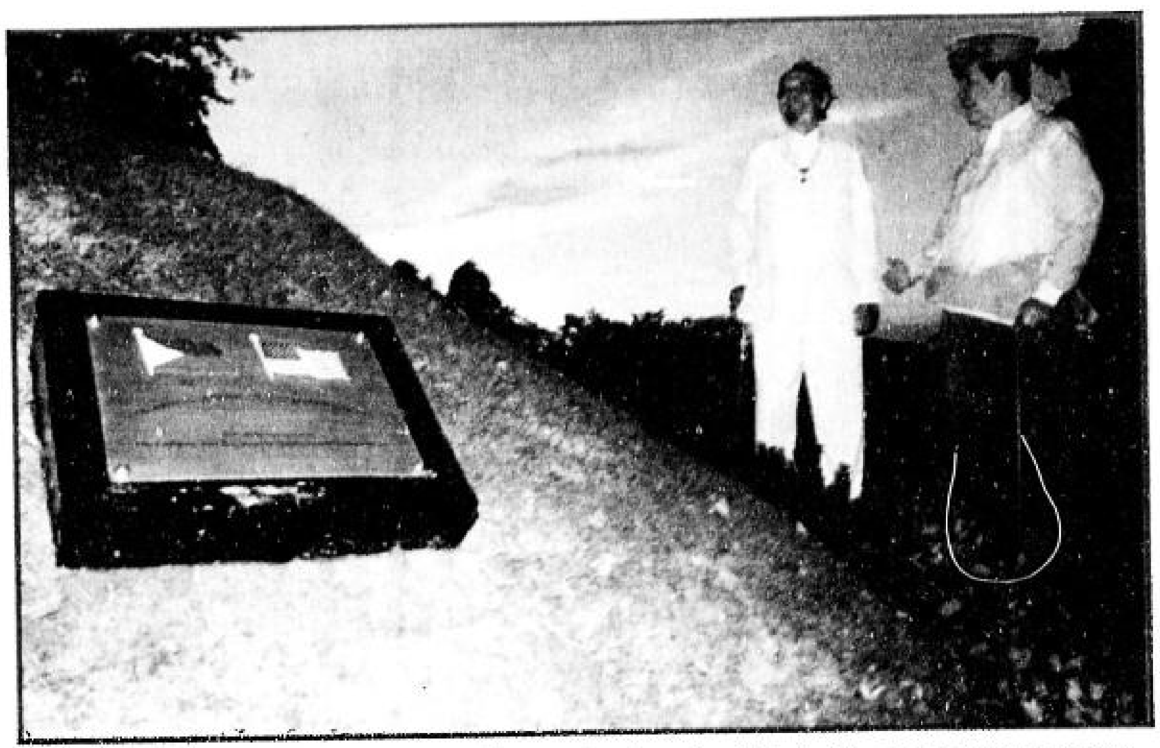
The suit, filed on behalf of Angela Borlaza in Los Angeles Superior Court on Friday last week, said she was evicted from the house by film producer Mike Medavoy and his brother-in-law Larry J. Dressler.

It said the two men isolated Brando while he was still alive to gain control of his estate after he died.

The Oscar-winning actor, known for his roles in movies like "On the Waterfront" and "The Godfather," died on July 1, 2004.

Borlaza accused Medavoy, Dressler and Avra Douglas (a friend of Brando's daughter

FIL-AM/ A8



**CELEBRATION OF FRIENDSHIP:** Retired Commodore Francisco Cedula, 85, goes down memory lane with Private First Class Johann Kasten IV at the Philippine-American Friendship Garden during the US Independence Day commemoration at the US Embassy in Manila.

**WEATHER FORECAST**

FORECAST: Central and Southern Luzon and the whole of Visayas will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will have partly cloudy to at times cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms mostly in the afternoon or evening.

COMPILED BY: KATE PEDROSO, PDI RESEARCH/07/04/06

SOURCE: PAGASA

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Metro Manila** | Cloudy with Rains | **Iloilo/Bacolod** | Cloudy with Rains |
| **Baguio** | Partly Cloudy | **Roxas** | Cloudy with Rains |
| **Tuguegarao** | Partly Cloudy | **Cebu** | Cloudy with Rains |
| **Laoag** | Partly Cloudy | **Tacloban** | Cloudy with Rains |
| **Clark Zone** | Cloudy with Rains | **Gen. Santos** | Partly Cloudy |
| **Tagaytay** | Cloudy with Rains | **Zamboanga** | Partly Cloudy |
| **Legazpi** | Cloudy with Rains | **Cagayan de Oro** | Partly Cloudy |
| **Calapan** | Cloudy with Rains | **Davao** | Partly Cloudy |

# Erap, former beauty queen swap charges

By Nelson F. Flores and Nikko Dizon

IT'S HIS WORDS AGAINST HERS.

After ex-beauty queen Joelle Marie Pelaez reiterated her accusations that ousted President Joseph Estrada was alleged engaged in money laundering, the latter yesterday asked his lawyers to immediately file libel cases against Pelaez here and in the United States.

Pelaez, however, remains undaunted and is set to file today charges of money laundering, forgery, and estafa against the former president and eight others before the Pasig City Prosecutor's Office, accusing them of laundering P2.07 billion worth of stocks and other debt instruments using her name without her knowledge.

The 29-year-old Pelaez, an American citizen, will also file a case of identity fraud against them upon her return to the US.

## Libel case

Lawyer Rufus Rodriguez said the libel case in the Philippines will be handled by the Rodriguez and Casila Law Offices, while the Siguion-Reyna, Montecillo, and Ongsiako Law Office will take over the US litigation.

Pelaez , second runner-up in the 1999 Bb. Pilipinas beauty pageant, declined to speak to reporters at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (Naia) after she arrived from the US on Monday night.

But Pelaez's mother, Blanquita, told reporters her daughter had the evidence against Estrada and the others.

"They used her name and forged her signature so that they could launder money, stocks, and bonds," the elder Pelaez added.

The National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) has expressed interest in the case.

"Now that she is in the country, we would coordinate with Ms Pelaez's lawyer in asking her to confirm her affidavit and answer clarificatory questions," NBI Interpol Division chief Claro de Castro Jr. said.

Estrada's alleged money laundering activities were published last May in a Manila broadsheet and carried on the Internet, Rodriguez added.

"From the very beginning, Pres. Estrada has made known his belief that Ms. Pelaez' sudden appearance in public is part of a political program to distract him as he renders his testimony before the Sandiganbayan which is hearing the plunder case against him," Rodriguez said.

But in an interview over DZBB yesterday morning, Pelaez stressed that her accusations against Estrada were not politically motivated.

Pelaez's mother said charges would also be filed against San Miguel Corp. president Ramon Ang, United Coconut Planters Bank (UCPB) president Lorenzo Tan, chief executive officer Jeronimo Kilayko, vice presidents Alfredo Bautista and Rafael Bueno, Jr., Robert Sobrepena of the Fil-Estate Group, Jimmy Borromeo, and Jaime Dichavez.

She said she was ready to face whatever issues that would be thrown at her, including her mother's failed handcuff deal with the Philippine National Police (PNP) when Sen. Panfilo Lacson was still its chief.

Rodriguez pointed out that Ms Pelaez's accusation was a rehash of former intelligence chief Col. Victor Corpus's charges at the Senate in 2001 that Estrada and his wife Sen. Loi Estrada were allegedly laundering nearly $1-billion in Hong Kong, Canada and the US.

The source of Corpus' wrong information was Blanquita, he added.

*With a report from Margaux Ortiz*

**JOELLE MARIE PELAEZ** is all smiles upon her arrival on Monday.

JESS YUSON/PDI PHOTO

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FIL-AM DAY ISSUE

# Amerasians still fighting for birthright

By Tonette Orejas
*PDI Central Luzon Desk*

OLONGAPO CITY—YESTERDAY was Philippine-American Friendship Day, an occasion which has no meaning to 36-year-old Marissa Navidad.

Navidad is an Amerasian who has never met her American father.

And since the US government refuses to honor the birthright of more than 50,000 Filipinos whose fathers were American servicemen stationed in military bases here until 1992, Amerasians like Navidad, may never meet their fathers.

"Only when Filipino Amerasians are recognized by the United States as citizens—a status that will help us find our fathers—will we consider July 4 a real friendship day," Navidad said yesterday.

The outspoken woman is a member of the National League of Amerasians (NLA) and lives in the village of Sta. Rita, outside the former Subic Naval Base, now an economic zone.

Based on an NLA survey, there were 3,000 Amerasians living in this city in 2004.

Over the years, July 4 has become the rallying point in their search for their fathers, according to Navidad.

"The day stands for friendship. It's inspiring but it's also ironic," she said.

The US government gave them aid, Navidad said, but the Amerasian Immigration Act of 1982 excluded Filipino Amerasians from emigrating to the US under the sponsorship of an American.

It's unfair, she said, because that privilege was given to Amerasians from Thailand, Korea, Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

The NLA had filed a class suit against the United States government but a San Francisco had dismissed their case in 1993.

Nevertheless, the NLA continued to help members find their American fathers.

There were some successes. Of the 125 Amerasians in its active registry, at least eight had obtained US citizenship and were reunited with their fathers.

Some fathers would be found but they refused to answer letters, phone calls or e-mails from their children.

Forty-seven Amerasians had absolutely no information on their fathers.

Only a few fathers actually came looking for their children.

According to Navidad, there are some 50,000 Amerasians in the Philippines.

The US Embassy has strict requirements in claiming American citizenship. At least 13 documents need to be presented, including birth certificates signed by the father and affidavit of paternity, according to Navidad.

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# Maguindanao fighting imperils peace talks

PEACE TALKS TO END NEARLY 40 YEARS of Muslim rebellion in the South may be threatened by sporadic fighting in Mindanao, the rebels' chief negotiator said yesterday.

Thousands of villages have fled the fighting and negotiator Mohaqher Iqbal accused some soldiers of openly taking sides in battles since last week between Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) rebels and paramilitary forces in central Mindanao.

"It's certainly a setback to the talks," Iqbal told Reuters by phone, warning that the government's failure to restrain its troops "may erode the MILF's trust and confidence."

The MILF has been negotiating with the government since 1997 to halt a conflict that has killed more than 120,000 people and held back development of the south.

Iqbal said Army regulars, backed by three armored vehicles, were in action on Monday against MILF positions in Shariff Aguak town, where seven people were killed last month by a bomb aimed at the powerful governor of Maguindanao province, Andal Ampatuan.

Colonel Alex Cabales, the army's deputy division commander, said soldiers and tanks were deployed along the main highway to prevent rebels from encroaching on urban centers, denying troops were directly involved in the clashes.

"The latest incident of conflict is an isolated case that has not dented the overall spirit of the peace process," said Ignacio Bunye, a spokesperson for President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, adding the military was ordered to restore order and help evacuees.

"The government is determined to pursue peace and development while taking all effective means to stop terrorism and bringing to justice those who have engaged in bombings and depredations."

On Monday evening, hundreds of paramilitaries laid seige to a farming village in Shariff Aguak occupied by Muslim rebels for nearly a week, advancing under cover of howitzer and mortar fire.

Several houses in the village were on fire as the rebels withdrew. They were expected to launch a counter-attack, said Colonel Tristan Kison, an Army spokesperson.

Kison said paramilitary forces from other Maguindanao towns were sent to Shariff Aguak as reinforcements, prompting thousands of civilians from seven towns to flee their homes and farms.

The paramilitary forces are civilians trained and armed by the military to help defend their communities, but analysts say they are used by local politicians as private armies.

*Reuters*

# Editor's killer a VIP in jail

**By Michael Sarcauga**
*PDI Mindanao Bureau*

PAGADIAN CITY—THE former policeman convicted of killing a journalist manages to play tennis with the jail warden in the Pagadian City Rehabilitation Center (PCRC).

Seven months ago, Cebu Regional Trial Court Judge Ramon Codilla sentenced Guillermo Wapile to life imprisonment for the May 2002 killing of Zamboanga Scribe managing editor and dxKP anchorman Edgar Damalerio.

Wapile had been transferred to the PCRC when Judge Codilla ordered his commitment to the National Bilibid Prison in Muntinlupa City.

But he has since been recommitted to jail here to face robbery and car theft charges.

His next court hearing is scheduled on Aug. 10, or eight months after his last court appearance in December last year.

## Good player

While waiting, Wapile plays tennis matches with the jail warden, Supt. Mamerto Baroro, and prison guards. He even allegedly sings along to a videoke machine, which he is said to co-own and operate inside the PCRC.

Baroro admitted to playing tennis with Wapile, whom he described as a good player.

But "whenever we play tennis, he is heavily guarded," Baroro said of the convicted killer.

"Some jail employees would ask him to play singles or doubles, and I see nothing wrong with it because we always observe security precautions whenever he is outside his cell," the warden added.

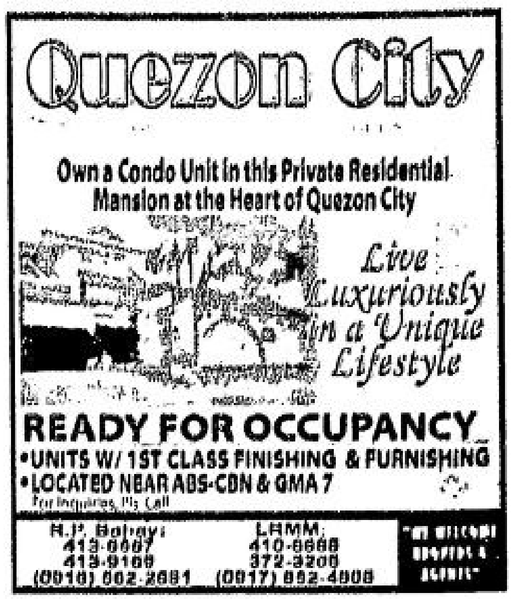
## Celebrity

Baroro, however, denied that Wapile co-owned the videoke machine in the PCRC.

Conchita San Diego, the provincial social welfare and development officer who lives near the compound, was surprised to learn that the jail had a videoke machine.

San Diego said singing might be "a good emotional outlet for inmates to ease the boredom of prison life," but pointed out that it should be free of charge.

Baroro said he wanted to write the Pagadian Regional Trial Court to speed up Wapile's trial so he would be free of the celebrity inmate.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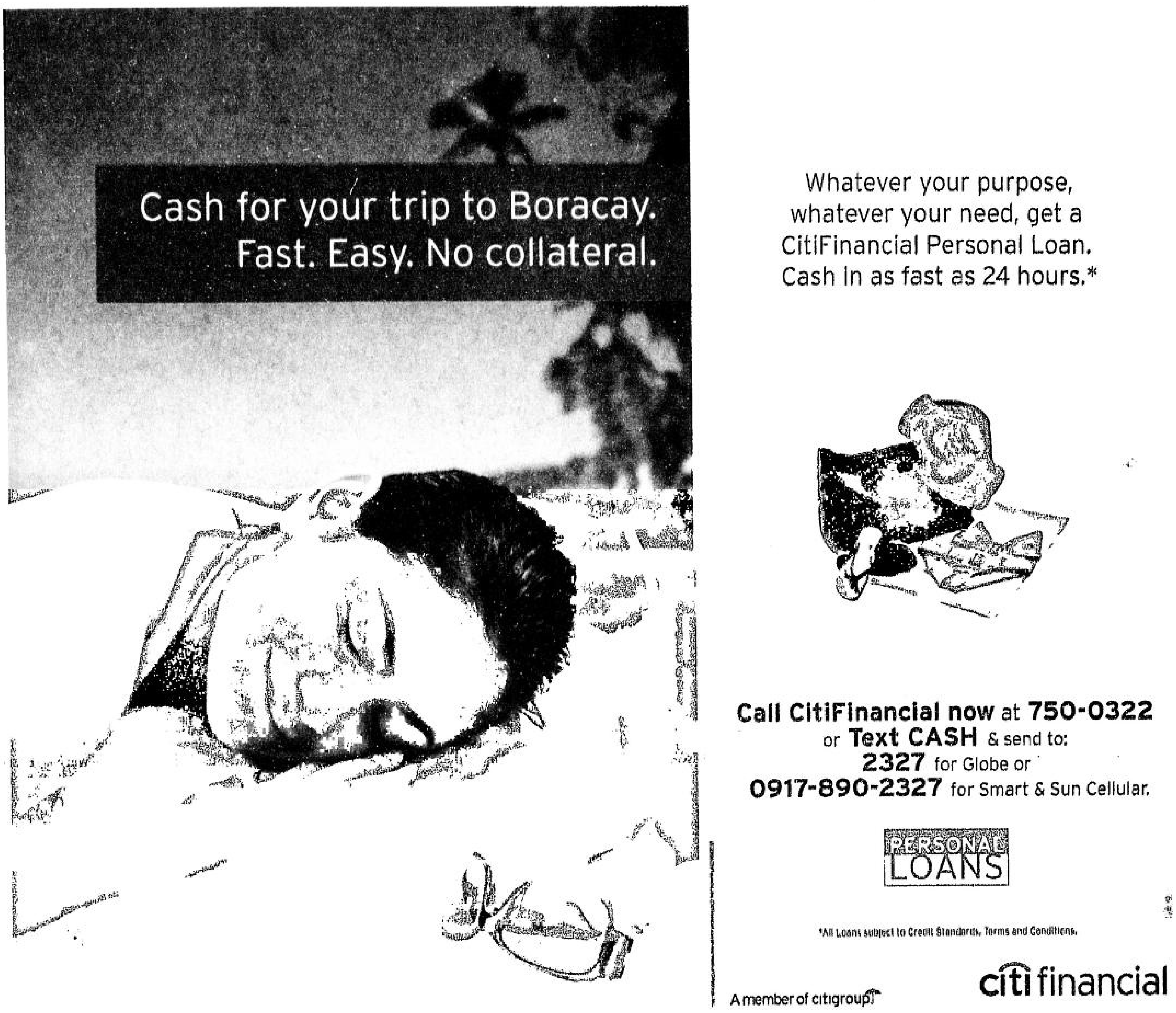
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# *Expect no kindness, lawyers tell 'Nicole'*

From page A1

abused her on Nov. 1, 2005.

"We have given her a pep talk," private prosecutor Evalyn Ursua told the INQUIRER. "Basically, we told her not to expect kindness [but to] expect cruelty, because [the defense] will certainly try to destroy her character and make all sorts of insinuations."

Nicole will be the prosecution's 20th witness when she takes her oath at Branch 139 of the Makati City Regional Court, which began hearing her case on June 2.

"I told her to be as spontaneous as possible and to be very clear about her description," Ursua said when reached on the phone minutes after she conferred with her client.

The lawyer said she expected Nicole's direct examination to take two or three hearings.

After that, she will be handed over to the defense for grilling.

## 'Imagine'

The public prosecutors earlier notified Judge Benjamin Pozon that they would allow Nicole's testimony to be opened to the public except for portions directly dealing with the alleged rape.

Aside from preparing herself physically with adequate sleep, Nicole has also been advised to "imagine herself facing the accused."

Should she become nervous or come dangerously close to breaking point, she should "focus on any one person in the gallery who can provide a reassuring presence for her," Ursua recalled telling the complainant.

While her client has broken into tears a number of times as part of the courtroom audience, Ursua said she would never explicitly coach any rape victim to weep in court just to give "a sign of credibility."

"I don't think we should follow the stereotype that [rape victims] should cry. Victims react differently. It's not ethical [for a lawyer to coach them to cry]," Ursua said.

"She has become prayerful, especially after the incident. I can say she has become closer to her God," the lawyer said of Nicole, a Catholic and a management accounting graduate of Ateneo de Davao.

## 4th of July lunch

Ursua was not the only lawyer engaged in boosting a client's morale yesterday.

Jose Justiniano said he and his colleagues in the defense team had a "Fourth of July" lunch of "Chinese hot pot (shabu-shabu)" with the four accused Americans at the building in the US Embassy compound where they are being held.

Justiniano, who described the lunch as a "small party" to mark US Independence Day, said he even played his sax for the soldiers and their guards.

Asked to describe the soldiers' spirits at this point in the trial, the lawyer said Lance Cpl. Daniel Smith (who claimed to have had consensual sex with Nicole) remained the quiet one, while Staff Sgt. Chad Carpentier (the highest ranking of the four accused) cracked jokes during the lunch.

The other accused are Lance Corporals Dominic Duplantis and Keith Silkwood.

## Dead drunk

Asked what he expected from Nicole's testimony, Justiniano said: "I think she will go by her sister's (Anna Liza Franco's) story that she was drunk when the incident happened."

"If she says she was drunk, then it would be difficult for her to remember much," he said, adding:

"But if, on the other hand, she would be able to recall a lot, then it will not support [the prosecution's] position that she was dead drunk [and could not have consented to sex with Smith]."

LEAVE US ALONE!

ROGER MARGALLO

RAFFY LERMA

**LOVE/HATE relationship through the ages:** (Top) US envoy Kristie A. Kenney views the photo exhibit at the DFA lobby as part of the 60th anniversary of Fil-Am Friendship Day. (Above) Militants would rather junk the remembrance of things past and American.

# Reds' peace bid in Oslo rejected

From page A1

there is a ceasefire (on hostilities)," Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye told reporters yesterday, when asked to comment on the NDF leaders' consultations with the Norwegian foreign ministry.

Ms Arroyo declared last month an all-out war on communist rebels and set aside P1 billion for the military and police for the acquisition of hardware like helicopter gunships to crush the 38-year communist insurgency in two years in certain parts of Luzon.

As part of the all-out war, the government is preparing to file murder cases against Sison, founding chair of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), both in the Netherlands where he is based and in the Philippines.

"Consultations with the NDF are part of the ordinary contacts that Norway has with the parties. We had the same kind of talks with representatives from the (Philippine) government at the beginning of June," Tore Hattrem, director general of the Section of Peace and Reconciliation at the Norwegian foreign ministry, told AFP.

Hattrem said there were no prospects for a quick restart of the peace talks on the Philippines, "but we are working with the aim that the talks can be resumed in a longer perspective."

Bunye said no meaningful negotiations could start because the New People's Army, the military arm of the CPP, had launched attacks on government forces.

Besides, he did not think the CPP-NDF-NPA was sincere in returning to the peace table. "Let me say action speaks louder than words, and by their actions they don't seem to be serious in pursuing real meaningful negotiations," Bunye said.

Presidential Chief of Staff Mike Defensor has said the government will just engage in peace negotiations with communist leaders at the grass-roots level.

The NDF called off negotiations with the government two years ago because of the terrorist tag on the CPP, NDF and NPA by the United States. The CPP and the 7,400-member NPA are also on the European Union's list of terrorist groups, while the Netherlands-based NDF is not.

"The consultations shall deal with the possibility of resuming the formal talks while the Arroyo regime is still in power," said Ruth de Leon, executive director of the NDF International information office.

## Human rights violations

The delegation also wants Norway to convince the Philippine government to respect agreements between the government and the NDF concerning respect for civil rights, "in the face of rampant gross human rights violations in the Philippines."

The Joint Monitoring Committee (JMC) monitors the implementation of the Comprehensive Agreement on Respect for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law (Carhrihl).

The JMC offices in Quezon City are funded by the Norwegian government and have been receiving complaints of violations of the Carhrihl by both government and NDF forces since 2004.

However, members from both sides have yet to meet to discuss the human rights violations charges—more than 800 of them—because of the stalled formal talks.

At least 233 leftist activists have been killed since Ms Arroyo took power in 2001. The military and the police have denied allegations that they are conducting a "dirty war."

De Leon said the Norwegian government and peace advocates the world over recognized the need for vigorous efforts for the resumption of peace negotiations amid the escalating human rights violations under the Arroyo administration's all-out war policy."

In a report, Hattrem had commented that the rise in political killings and human rights violations in the country was stalling the peace negotiations.

## Reforms

The NDF said the consultations in Oslo "shall also deal with how to keep active and productive the NDF negotiating panel and the NDF reciprocal working committee on social and economic reforms, and possibly working groups on political and constitutional reforms and on the end of hostilities and disposition of forces."

The NDF said it planned to continue to prepare drafts of agreements on social, economic and political reforms and to test them in working sessions and open forums with respected Filipino experts and certain government officials and the political opposition.

"Thus, a level of consensus shall be reached even before the resumption of the formal talks, and thus accelerating the progress of future negotiations," it said.

## Senator Madrigal

On Monday, Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez accused opposition Sen. Jamby Madrigal of "treason" and warned she could be prosecuted after she held unauthorized talks with NDF leaders in the Netherlands.

Madrigal, an Arroyo critic, has insisted she has no political agenda and is only interested "in preventing further bloodshed." She issued a joint statement with the rebel leaders urging Ms Arroyo to halt the military offensive and to return to peace talks.

## Stop terror acts

Asked what actions the communist rebels should take to show they were sincere in resuming peace talks, Bunye said the rebels should stop torching cell sites, ambushing certain people, and planting land mines.

He said the government would assess the situation should the communist rebels stop their terror acts.

"I think the stance of government is to pursue the armed elements of the communist group but at the same time we will pursue social development projects for the countryside where they have been recruiting their members," Bunye said.

Jesus Dureza, presidential adviser on the peace process, is expected to hold a press conference today upon his return from Norway and Azerbaijan. *With reports from Norman Bordadora in Manila, Delfin Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau, and AFP*

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# BSP may take Noli up on OFW remittance raffle

By Cynthia D. Balana

THE BANGKO SENTRAL NG PILIPINAS IS now in the final phase of its review of Vice President Noli de Castro's proposal for it to hold a monthly raffle draw to reward overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) who course their remittances through the banks.

Quoting BSP Governor Armando Tetangco Jr.'s reply to his letter on this subject, De Castro, presidential adviser on OFWs, said the BSP was carefully studying the rules and mechanics that will govern the raffle program, including the use of electronic coupons.

Tetangco cited several thorny issues being ironed out as "reputational risks in view of numerous text scams invoking the BSP's name, administrative difficulties in implementing a nationwide raffle program, and anticipated limited additionality given that banks are estimated to have captured 85 percent of total remittances in 2005."

De Castro's proposal aims to grant a reward scheme to OFWs, through a raffle system done monthly, which entitles an OFW to one raffle coupon for every $100 remittance transaction he or she will make through formal channels. At present, the average amount of monthly remittance transaction made by OFWs ranges from $300 to $400.

De Castro said that it was necessary to push for ways to ease the burden of OFWs considering the contributions they make in achieving the 5.5 percent gross national product growth of the economy in the first quarter of the year.

He has also asked the BSP to coordinate with the local banking system on how to lower and mitigate the banking charges and service fees imposed on remittances by OFWs.

He likewise suggested to BSP to study the feasibility of providing a "special exchange rate" for OFWs.

Meanwhile, De Castro expressed support for the priority plan of new Labor and Employment Secretary Arturo Brion to promote the welfare of OFWs and protect them from illegal recruitment.

De Castro said he believed that Brion's plan for OFWs reflects the government's sincerity in ensuring the safety and well being of the country's new heroes.

He admitted that the problem of illegal recruitment still prevails despite stiffer penalties for this crime.

# Singapore Pinay held for compatriot's slay freed on bail

SINGAPORE—A FILIPINO MAID ARrested in Singapore in connection with the death of a compatriot has been released on bail, police said Tuesday.

"She has been released on bail pending ongoing investigations," police spokesperson Sandra Yip told AFP.

The maid, whose name was not disclosed by police, was arrested Friday after a fellow Filipina, with whom she had a dispute, was found dead at the bottom of a high-rise apartment block after an apparent fall.

The two women had been overheard arguing outside a flat on the 18th floor before the incident.

On May 29, Filipino maid Guen Aguilar was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment for the killing of fellow domestic worker Jane La Puebla, whose body was chopped to pieces.

Aguilar escaped the death penalty after the charge was reduced to culpable homicide not amounting to murder due to her mental state when she committed the crime last September. *AFP*

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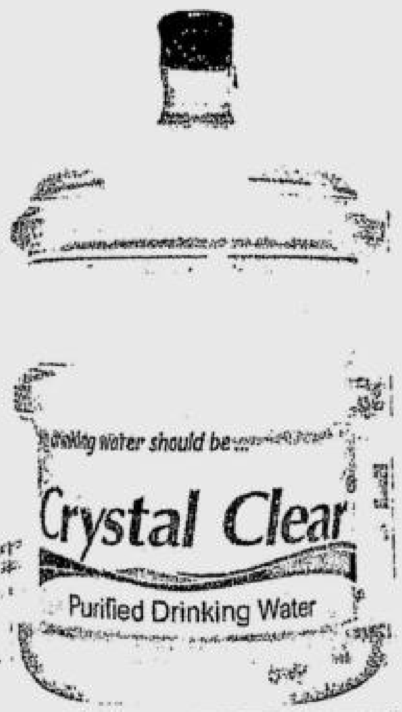

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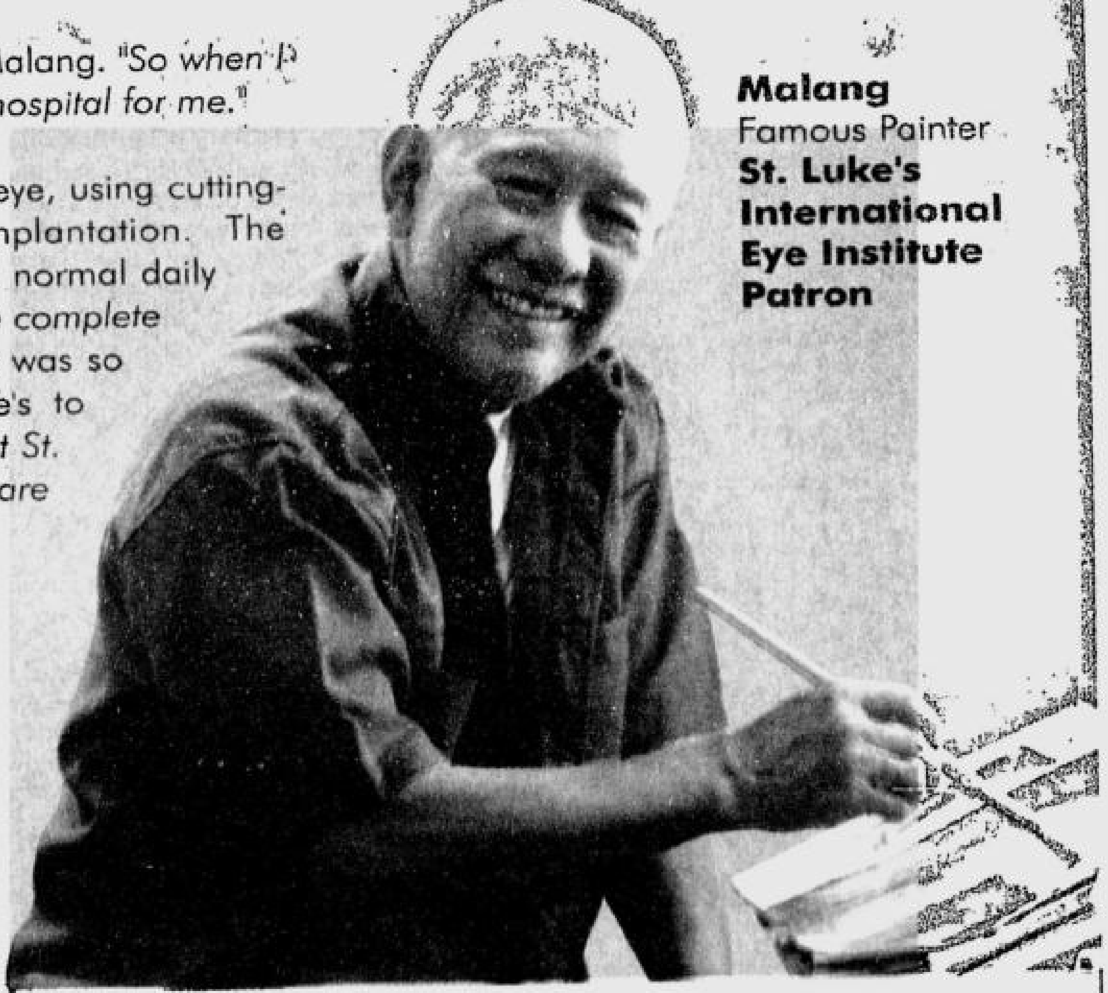

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**WITHDRAWAL OF SUPPORT** that never was starring Brig Gen. Danilo Lim in the ABS-CBN video. The NBI said it is planning to confront Lim on Friday and other officers standing behind him would be subpoenaed. TV GRAB/ANC

**"THAT DID NOT COME FROM US,"** Rear Adm. Rufino P. Lopez, head of the fact-finding team, says referring to the Danilo Lim video allegedly recorded at ABC 5. JOAN BONDOC

# Gov't calls Danny Lim video the 'smoking gun'

From page A1

tional emergency was justified.

Ms Arroyo lifted the proclamation a week later, saying that the plot to oust her by a "cabal" of renegade soldiers, communist insurgents, opposition politicians and businessmen had been aborted.

## 'Happy for that tape'

"I'm happy with that, I'm really happy for that tape because it, I think, supports the government's attitude in issuing 1017 because there was really a threat to national security which they cannot deny now, not even the Supreme Court," Gonzalez told reporters.

The Supreme Court subsequently upheld in a landmark decision the validity of Ms Arroyo's emergency proclamation but said the acts committed under the declaration, including a raid on an opposition newspaper and warrantless arrests, were unconstitutional because they did not conform with legal procedures.

State lawyers have sought reconsideration of the court decision, as well as two other rulings on Ms Arroyo's gag rule on officials appearing before congressional hearings under Executive Order No. 464 and her calibrated preemptive response policy of cracking down on dissenters.

The decisions were a severe setback to the President as she grappled with a crisis of legitimacy over allegations she stole the May 2004 election—charges she has vehemently denied.

Last week, the opposition filed four impeachment complaints against the 59-year-old President, repeating election fraud charges brought before the House of Representatives last year and additional allegations she engaged in systematic political killings to stifle dissent.

In the video, Lim declared a crisis "of extreme proportions" in the country, listing a host of problems in society.

"The entire system has broken down—thanks to a President whose legitimacy has been denied by the vast majority of our people," the West Point-trained general said.

"In her mad desire for power, she has corrupted and destroyed all institutions, she has promoted a policy of loot and plunder while hypocritically announcing a war against corruption," Lim said.

He added that Ms Arroyo corrupted Supreme Court justices, the Commission on Elections, the mass media, some members of the military, the police and the clergy, and teachers who counted the votes in the 2004 election.

"Pursuant therefore to our constitutional duty as protector of the people and the state, we have today withdrawn our support from Mrs. Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo in order to end her unconstitutional and illegal occupation of the presidency," he said.

Lim also said the Armed Forces of the Philippines would maintain law and order and leave the business of running the government to "professionally competent, morally upright, patriotic, trustworthy and self-sacrificing Filipinos whom we now invite to form a new government."

## Evidence

Gonzalez said the video could be used as evidence in coup d'etat cases the AFP might file with the DOJ.

"You have already the smoking gun," he said.

Gonzalez also said the video indicated that Lim was lying when he earlier told the NBI that he was not involved in actions against the government.

"I don't think General Lim can deny that. I think this incident has shown that General Lim was lying because he said before the NBI that he never got involved," he said.

Gonzalez also said he watched with Ms Arroyo the ANC telecast of Lim's video.

"The President was satisfied. It was quite balanced and in fact I would say the twist was a little bit more favorable because in effect, if you will use your mind, it justifies why 1017 was issued. That statement which was supposed to be delivered at the height of that crisis on Feb. 24 indicated there was a clear and present danger to the state at that time," Gonzalez said.

## Palace denial

Presidential Chief of Staff Michael Defensor said Malacañang did not have a hand in the release of the video, insisting on his previous claims that it was filmed by ABC 5 television network, which had repeatedly denied the claim.

Defensor noted that the tape was released while "all was quiet on the military front."

He said the only "noise" was coming from Congress, "where you see a desperate opposition trying to get public attention," referring to the filing of four impeachment complaints against Ms Arroyo last week.

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said that the military would investigate Lim. "We don't wish to preempt the military court," he said.

Esmeralda, chief of the NBI special task force, said he plans to confront Lim on Friday.

"We are hoping that Lim would cooperate and provide us with the names of the military officers present in the video," Esmeralda told reporters.

He said that Col. Leonardo Caringal, who was standing behind Lim in the video and identified through his name patch, would also be subpoenaed.

Esmeralda also said that the NBI would focus on the identification of Lim's civilian supporters.

## Cojuangco and Saycon

"We will be keeping in touch with Time correspondent Nelly Sindayen," Esmeralda said, referring to Sindayen's report naming Jose "Peping" Cojuangco and Pastor "Boy" Saycon as among several businessmen allegedly involved in the plot to oust Ms Arroyo.

"Sindayen has been right all along ... We are now appealing to her sense of patriotism and [and asking her] come forward to help us," Esmeralda said.

"We will also be studying Cojuangco and Saycon's earlier statements to determine if we would invite them again for interview," the NBI official said.

Also yesterday, military officials played down a report leaked to the media on Monday night that said a fact-finding body had recommended court-martial for 38 officers, including Lim, and 27 soldiers involved in the Feb. 24 coup plot.

"The report is not finished yet. The news reports may be based on some drafts they obtained. I don't know how. But that was unauthorized," Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Generoso Senga said.

The head of the eight-member fact-finding panel, AFP Inspector General Rear Admiral Rufino Lopez, repeated Senga's line. *With reports from Christine O. Avendaño, Margaux C. Ortiz and Michael Lim Ubac*

# 'Borra may be sued before impeachment'

From page A1

there was a Supreme Court decision on the filing of charges in the antigraft court against officials of constitutionally created agencies.

Abalos and the Comelec commissioners are of the position that they have to be removed through impeachment first before charges can be filed against them.

Monsod said the opinion that Comelec officials could be charged in the Sandiganbayan had been put forward by Kilosbayan headed by former Senate President Jovito Salonga and Sen. Aquilino Pimentel.

Both Kilosbayan and Pimentel have filed complaints against Comelec officials in the Office of the Ombudsman in connection with the Mega Pacific deal.

"I agree with the position (that a criminal case may be filed against the commissioners even before they are impeached)," said Monsod, also a member of the Constitutional Commission that drafted the 1987 Constitution.

Like the President or the Chief Justice, officials of constitutionally created agencies—the Comelec, Office of the Ombudsman, Commission on Audit and the Civil Service Commission—can be impeached.

Monsod wondered why the Ombudsman had yet to find Comelec Chair Benjamin Abalos liable for the failed P1.3-billion Mega Pacific contract.

"It's hard to imagine (Commissioner Resurreccion) Borra would be singled out when everybody signed and the CEO is the chair? Why would they need more time to investigate when the case has been pending for over two years?" Monsod said in a telephone interview.

So far, only Borra has been found liable by the Ombudsman. He could face impeachment proceedings in connection with the failed poll automation contract.

The Office of the Ombudsman announced on June 30—the deadline set by the Supreme Court for the agency to resolve its inquiry into the liability of poll officials—that other officials, including Abalos, were still under investigation.

## Primary responsibility

Besides Abalos and Borra, retired Commissioners Luzviminda Tancangco, Rufino Javier, Ralph Lantion and Mehol Sadain, and current Commissioner Florentino Tuason Jr. approved the poll automation contract on April 15, 2003.

"Certainly, one can't say that the person with the primary responsibility over the matter was Borra," Monsod said.

The Supreme Court voided the deal in January 2004 on the grounds that the Comelec had disregarded the laws and its bidding procedures.

In a statement released in December 2005, Pimentel said the Supreme Court, in its decision declaring the poll automation contract null and void, expressly held that poll officials could be criminally prosecuted without the need for impeachment proceedings.

"Thus, the high tribunal ordered the Office of the Ombudsman 'to determine the criminal liability, if any, of the public officials (and conspiring private individuals, if any) involved in the (Comelec) resolution in the contract,'" Pimentel said.

The senator said it was on this basis that he filed a formal complaint with the Ombudsman seeking an investigation of the people involved in the anomalous poll modernization project for possible criminal prosecution.

## Dismissal

Pimentel filed his complaint a few days after the Supreme Court voided the Comelec's computerization contract with Mega Pacific.

The Kilosbayan Foundation filed a similar complaint with the Ombudsman on Sept. 16, 2004.

At a press conference on Friday, acting Overall Deputy Ombudsman Orlando Casimiro said the Ombudsman had ordered the dismissal of the chair of the Comelec bids and awards committee (BAC), Eduardo Mejos, and members Jose Balbuena Jr., Lamberto Llamas, Bartolome Sinocruz Jr. and Gideon de Guzman. All five members of the BAC have retired except for Mejos and Sinocruz.

## Fair and square

Casimiro said the officials were removed from the service after being found guilty of grave misconduct and conduct prejudicial to the best interest of the service as provided for under Republic Act No. 3019 (Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act) in connection with the Mega Pacific deal, Casimiro said.

The Ombudsman also recommended the filing of charges for violation of RA No. 3019 against private respondent Willie Yu, Bonnie Yu, Enrique Tansipek, Rosita Tansipek, Pedro Tan, Johnson Fong, Bernard Fong and Lauriano Barrios, all of Mega Pacific eSolutions Inc.

In a statement, Mega Pacific yesterday expressed disappointment and dismay over the resolution of the Ombudsman finding probable cause against the company and its officers for supposedly violating the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act.

"We won it fair and square and we won it clean," said Alfredo V. Lazaro Jr., Mega Pacific legal counsel and spokesperson, referring to the automated counting machine bidding three years ago.

In a statement, Lazaro said it appeared that the Office of the Ombudsman released the decision simply to comply with the deadline imposed by the Supreme Court.

"To some extent, the primary quest of the Ombudsman to render justice was compromised for expediency," he said.

Lazaro said Mega Pacific participated as a regular bidder and submitted a proposal compliant with the rules and regulations of the Comelec. *With a report from Nelson F. Flores*

# AFP report backs claim of torture

From page A1

reports from the Philippine National Police Crime Laboratory, the investigating panel said there was the "possibility that physical harm may [have been] committed against the person of Dionisio and the four other apprehended suspects."

The investigators said Rapanot only claimed to have seen Palenzuela punch Dionisio . The rest of the Isafp men did not mention other instance of torture or harm.

"The injuries found in the bodies of Dionisio and the four other apprehended suspects as evidenced by the physical examination reports... constitute probable cause of maltreatment," the seven-page investigation report said.

The lawyers for the complainants said the Isafp agents tortured the five Estrada supporters to force them to confess they were communist hit men out to assassinate President Macapagal-Arroyo.

The Judge Advocate General's Office (Jago), which is conducting the pretrial investigation preparatory to court-martial of Robinson and seven of his men, relented and furnished a copy of the report to the complainants who had demanded them.

The five men were abducted from Eustaquio's house on May 22. They were not shown in public until three days later, while Isafp denied the men were under military custody.

## Four sign impeach rap

Yesterday, four of the Erap 5 went to the House of Representatives and signed an impeachment complaint against Ms Arroyo, joining a citizen-led opposition campaign to unseat the President. Curameng did not join in the signing because he is still in the active service.

The 60-year-old Dionisio bore the brunt of the torture, saying he was forced to admit to being a communist assassin out to kill Ms Arroyo and other Cabinet officials.

But though the names of the Isafp agents were already known, they did not appear at yesterday's pretrial hearing called by the Jago investigating officer, Maj. Agustin Matavia.

The eight Isafp men, however, were represented by four private lawyers.

For the second time, the Erap 5 showed up with some relatives and their lawyers, Estrada defenders Rufus Rodriguez and Rene Saguisag.

Matavia did not complain about the absence of the eight Isafp men, whose lawyers questioned whether the Erap 5 were appearing as "witnesses" or as "complainants."

## Procedures

Under the court-martial process, private complainants against erring military officers and men are not necessary.

Rodriguez said his clients were "witnesses" but they reserved their right to give their affidavits to the Jago and to file a separate complaint.

The Isafp report dated May 29 recommended an investigation but did not give any clear picture of what had happened to Dionisio and his companions while under Isafp's custody.

The report said a five-man team from MIG-15 composed of Celebrado, Calabines, Ferrolino, Beloso and Duran accompanied by an unidentified civilian informant and police intelligence agents searched for Dionisio in Balintawak, Quezon City, around 1:30 p.m. on May 22.

The team was supposedly working on the information from Delfin de Guzman, an alleged rebel leader captured in Bulacan in May who accused Dionisio of being a communist hit man.

## Medical reports

The arresting team found Dionisio in Eustaquio's house at K4th St. in Kamuning, Quezon City, and forcibly took Dionisio and the four other men inside the house.

The five were brought to a cell inside the Isafp compound in Camp Aguinaldo, according to the report. What happened to them subsequently was not mentioned.

The Isafp report said it recommended charges against the seven other Isafp agents since "they are the only personnel who had an access upon the apprehended personalities."

Being officers, Robinson and Celebrado should be investigated for violation of Articles of War 96 (conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman) and 97 (conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline), the report said.

The six enlisted personnel should be investigated for violation of Article of War 97.

The four-man investigating team declined to comment on the legality of the arrest.

The report was signed by Army Col. Jet Velarmino, the lead investigator, Army Lt. Col. Ferdinand Baraquel, 1Lt. Ferdinand Baraquel and T/Sgt. Mamerto U. Narag. *With a report from Michael Lim Ubac*

# Return to Everest: Pinoys to climb from both sides

**By Christian V. Esguerra**

HAVING CONQUERED THE world's highest peak, Filipino mountaineers are setting their sights on another goal—climbing Mt. Everest simultaneously from Nepal and Tibet.

Leo Oracion and Erwin "Pastor" Emata, the first Filipinos to reach the top of the world, will lead a 10-member team that will scale the mountain from both routes in either April or May next year.

Two groups of climbers will assault Everest from Nepal and Tibet and then meet at the summit to plant the Philippine flag once again, according to Art Valdez, leader of the First Philippine Mt. Everest Expedition (FPMEE) team.

"If we succeed, we will be the first climbers of the same nationality to do so," Valdez told reporters at a press conference in Quezon City yesterday.

He said there had been similar and successful attempts in the past, but they involved mountaineers from different countries doing a "friendship climb."

Valdez and the FPMEE were inspired by Oracion and Emata's feat. The two reached Everest, the world's highest peak at 29,028 feet above sea level, last May 17. A third climber, Romy Garduce, reached the peak not long after.

FPMEE members Reggie Pablo, Noelle Wenceslao and Karina Dayondon, conquered Mt. McKinley in Alaska, at 8:20 p.m. last June 23, according to Valdez.

At 20,320 feet, Mt. McKinley or Denali is the highest mountain in North America. Denali is among the Seven Summits, the highest peaks on each of the seven continents.

**ORACION: More mountains to climb.** FILE PHOTO

The other six are Everest (Asia), Aconcagua (South America), Kilimanjaro (Africa), Elbrus (Caucasus), Vinson Massif (Antarctica) and Kosciusko (Australia).

Mt. Mckinley is also one of the coldest climbs, described as a "huge snowy mass, flanked by five giant glaciers and countless icefalls," by Pealcware World Mountain Encyclopedia.

"This is a big achievement for Filipinos because we come from a tropical country and we're able to conquer one of the world's coldest mountains," Valdez said.

He added that the temperature on Mt. McKinley usually drops from minus 20 to minus 60 degrees.

"Denali is not an specially difficult climb, but the weather is more severe there than anywhere else in the world. Many lives have been lost attempting the ascent," according to Peakware.

The harsh weather conditions drove many climbers from other countries to quit after two or three attempts, Valdez said.

The trio of Pablo, Dayondon and Wenceslao stayed on for 37 days and reached the top of McKinley on their fifth attempt, he added.

"There were very few climbers left," Valdez said, quoting information relayed to him by the three climbers. "Considering the weather, it was very difficult to climb McKinley but they did it anvway."

Valdez said the team stayed for 16 days at Camp 4, which is 14,000 feet from sea level. Another 12 days were spent at Camp 5, which is higher by another 3,000 feet. It took the team another 18 hours for the final assault from Camp 5 to the peak, he said.

The feat was especially meaningful for Wenceslao who, early this year, experienced pulmonary embolism, which is a serious lung condition, during the FPMEE's initial Everest expedition at 21,000 feet.

Climbers Dayondon, Wenceslao and Pablo, who is the leader of the McKinley climb, will return from Seattle on July 8. A press conference is scheduled four days after that.

# Senators rush to Jamby's defense

**By TJ Burgonio and Leila B. Salaverria**

MORE SENATORS YESTERDAY RUSHED TO the defense of opposition Sen. Jamby Madrigal who has come under fire from Malacañang for holding talks with communist leader Jose Ma. Sison in the Netherlands.

MADRIGAL

Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. and Sen. Ramon Magsaysay Jr. laughed off demands by Palace officials and Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez for the Senate to investigate and censure their colleague for betraying the "public trust."

"I think what Jamby did was talk to Joma to advance the cause of peace. I don't find anything criminal or in violation of ethical standards there. There's nothing to investigate her for," Pimentel said in a phone interview.

"As usual, Raul Gonzalez is barking up the wrong tree," he added.

Magsaysay agreed: "They should even be thankful that somebody has gone out of her way to find out what's in the minds of these people. If I were in the area, I would have done the same thing."

## Peace advocate

Madrigal, who is due to arrive from Europe tonight, has not issued any comments on the furor whipped up by her two-day talks with Sison in Utrecht last week. She had justified the visit as part of her duty as senator and peace advocate.

After the talks, Madrigal and National Democratic Front consultant Luis Jalandoni signed a joint communique urging the government to resume the peace negotiations stalled since August 2004.

Before that, the senator met with a special rapporteur (person designated to give a report) of the UN High Commission on Human Rights in Geneva to present evidence on the worsening human rights situation in the country.

## Inappropriate

But Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye insisted yesterday that Madrigal had behaved inappropriately when she met with communist leaders deemed to be the No. 1 enemy of the state.

"We believe that the action of the senator is at the very least, inappropriate," Bunye said.

Gonzalez, for his part, had asked Senate President Franklin Drilon to sanction Madrigal for violating ethical standards for public officials and committing acts "tantamount to treason."

The justice secretary said Madrigal was not authorized by the Senate to travel to Utrecht.

He cited a copy of Madrigal's travel order sent to him by the Senate Secretary Oscar Yabes which showed that the senator was authorized to go to Geneva, Switzerland, from June 16 to 25, to London, United Kingdom, from June 26 to June 30, and to Paris, France, from July 1 to 8.

The Senate did not shoulder the cost of the trip.

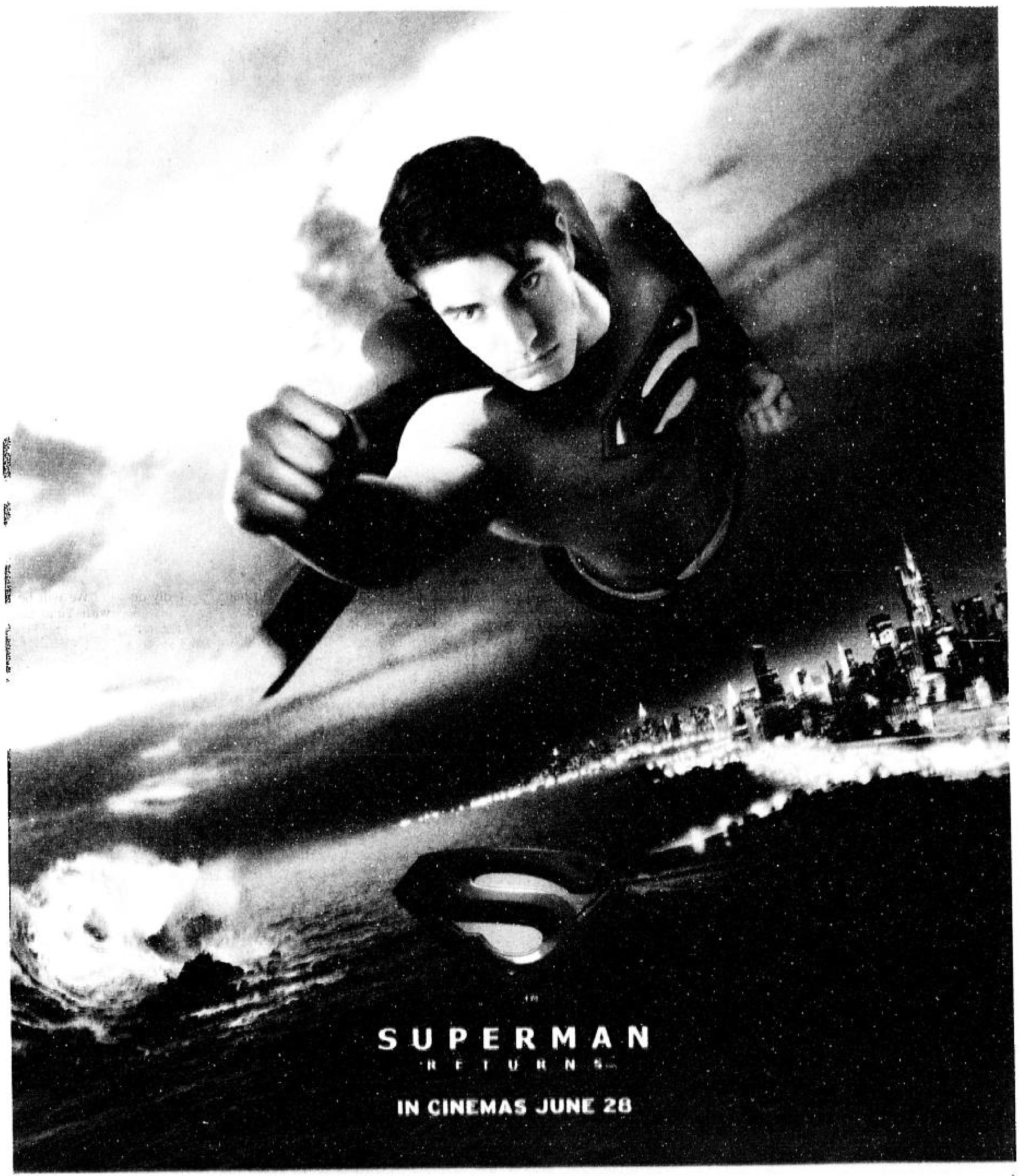
## Inciting to sedition?

Gonzalez also said that the contents of the communique, signed by Madrigal and the NDF, had some "inciting to sedition implications. What do you expect from a joint communique with the likes of Sison and Jalandoni?" he said.

The communique criticized the all-out war against the communist party's armed wing, the New People's Army, stating that it would only lead to "economic ruin and further escalate human rights violations."

It called for the resumption of peace talks between the government and the communist-led NDF and said that the killings of militants under the present administration should be addressed.

Gonzalez said Madrigal's act of meeting with Sison and issuing the communique could be taken as the position of the government when she was not even authorized to meet with the communist leader. *With Christine Avendaño*



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# Calderon is new PNP chief; Lomibao bows out

From page A1

nervousness you feel when getting married, on the eve of your wedding day."

Meeting with reporters hours after the call from the Palace, the PNP chief-in-waiting said he was still "floating and overjoyed with happiness" at the news.

The man considered to be a "silent operator" will officially assume his new post during the turnover ceremonies at Camp Crame today. As dictated by tradition, outgoing PNP Director General Arturo Lomibao will yield his symbolic saber of command to Ms Arroyo, who will then turn it over to Calderon.

### Brother is Isafp chief

Calderon is reputed to be a presidential relative, which he has not denied. Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye could neither confirm or deny any link.

The new PNP chief's brother, Commodore Leonardo Calderon Jr., was named a few months ago chief of the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces.

Asked about his supposed ties to Ms Arroyo, the incoming PNP boss said his record would speak for itself. He would have not reached his position—as did all other senior officers—if he did not deserve it, he said.

"I'm a capable officer on my own," said the current PNP deputy chief for administration.

Calderon has clear ideas on what he wants to do in his new job, and one of them is to pursue the PNP Transformation Program, an ambitious project that aims to see a professional police force in six years.

### Man with a heart

"Everything is in there—what is expected of all directors to do, and strategies to follow," he said.

An aide, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Calderon would want to be known as the chief "with a heart."

"Let us touch the hearts of our people so they will trust us," the aide quoted Calderon as saying.

A decorated officer, Calderon has his job cut out for him.

He is taking over the PNP at a time when Ms Arroyo is facing a new impeachment threat and the likelihood of more street protests. It is also time marked by an upsurge of killings—allegedly by paramilitary forces—of political activists and militants, particularly those linked to the Left. The killings have remained unsolved.

### Support from rivals

Ms Arroyo's recent declaration of an all-out war on communist rebels could also lead to intensified guerrilla attacks in the countryside.

And the threat of terror bombings continues to lurk in the shadows.

A reported top contender for the PNP post, Avelino Razon Jr., deputy director for operations, immediately pledged support for Calderon, as did Director Servando Hizon, said to be a dark horse in the race.

Razon showed up during Calderon's news briefing yesterday and the two had their photos taken. They vowed to work as a team.

### Without a baggage

Prior to his biggest appointment, Calderon was also head of the Presidential Anti-Crime and Emergency Response, the police's antikidnapping strike force.

His work as Pacer chief won him plaudits and also allowed him to avoid controversies.

One ranking officer noted that, as a result, Calderon would assume command of the force "with a clean slate."

"He (does) not have baggage and that gives him a fresh start," the officer said.

### No mistresses, please

Another officer said Calderon liked to ask "a lot of 'what ifs'" during briefings prior to a mission.

"He likes to ask what if this or that scenario comes up, and if you are able to convince him, he will just wait for your report. If not, he would either abort (the mission) or stay close or designate somebody to back you up in case something (untoward happened)," said Senior Supt. Leocadio Santiago, now with the Special Action Force.

"He also wants you to take care of your family," Santiago said, noting that Calderon was the type of commander who would talk to men reported to be having extramarital affairs.

Calderon is concerned that the affair might intrude "on one's capacity to perform duty," according to Santiago.

### Chinoy's trust

In July 2005, Calderon became Pacer chief.

Anticrime advocate Teresita Ang-See, who has worked with him in kidnapping cases, described Calderon as a "hands-on officer."

The Chinese-Filipino community apparently trusts him. Proof of that is that, during his stint as Pacer chief, rescued kidnap victims would come out and even allow themselves to be photographed pointing to their suspected kidnappers, colleagues said.

In the past, there had been allegations that police themselves were among the protectors of kidnap gangs.

"The criteria for the Chinese-Filipino community is unsoiled reputation. It has been shown before that if there is semblance of doubt, it boomerangs on the police, who loses the trust and confidence (of the community)," Ang-See said.

### Houses for cops

Calderon listed down what he wants done under the PNP Transformation Program.

- His flagship project will be housing. He wants to provide roofs to thousands of cops who do not own houses.
- He vows to bring down the number of street crimes, saying he wants everyone—from the office worker to the student—to "go home safe and without incident and not fearing that something untoward will happen."
- He assures media men and government officials of protection and will direct the Directorate for Investigation and Detective Management to fast-track investigation into unsolved cases.

### Decorated officer

Calderon, a father of three and a native of Aliaga, Nueva Ecija, has won numerous awards, including citations for having commanded the best regional office in 2002 and the best provincial command in 1993.

He has received more than two dozen medals, including the Bronze Cross, which he won for the rescue of a kidnap victim in Cebu City in the 1980s.

He has seen comrades die in battle but has been spared of ambuscades, a colleague said.

### 10 years in Mindanao

Immediately after graduation from the Philippine Military Academy in 1973, Calderon was assigned to Mindanao, where he stayed for 10 years.

He first served as company commander of Combat Company, 57th PC Battalion based in Parang, Maguindanao, then the hotbed of the Moro secessionist movement.

In the next seven years, he was in South Cotabato, Zamboanga City, General Santos City and Davao City as company commander.

In 1991, he became provincial commander of Eastern Samar, after which he became director of the Laguna Police, and then chief of Southern and Central Luzon.

Interior Secretary Ronaldo Puno welcomed Calderon's appointment and said it showed Malacañang's "strong adherence" to seniority in choosing the PNP chief. *With a report from Norman Bordadora*

## *Calderon 'too close' to GMA, says opposition leader*

**By Michael Lim Ubac**

THE MAN PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARroyo chose to lead the Philippine National Police has been privy to many of her political problems, an opposition stalwart told the INQUIRER yesterday.

"He's too close, too involved in many of President Arroyo's political affairs," House Deputy Minority Leader Alan Peter Cayetano said of the appointment of new PNP chief Oscar Calderon.

Quoting sources whom he did not identify, Cayetano said Caderon was seen with Ms Arroyo when she met with an influential Manila bishop at the outbreak last year of the "Hello Garci" wiretapping scandal.

### By her side

The lawmaker noted that it was not PNP chief Director General Arturo Lomibao but Calderon who gave the bishop an assessment of the security situation, "which they presented as a plot to oust GMA (President Arroyo)."

Calderon also stayed on Ms Arroyo's side as she went around the country "trying to mend political fences in order to keep her in office during that critical period," said Cayetano.

Still, Cayetano hoped that Calderon would run the PNP professionally and without regard for any debt of gratitude to Ms Arroyo.

"I hope he understands his loyalty should be to the country and not to the appointing power. We are willing to give him the benefit of the doubt but we will see it in his actions in the next few months."

### Will he be different?

The militant Bagong Alyansang Makabayan yesterday called on Calderon to veer away from the hardline government policy of dispersing demonstrations without permits.

"The main question on everyone's mind is how different will Calderon be from General Lomibao?" said Bayan secretary general Renato Reyes Jr.

"Will he be like Lomibao, whose main goal is keeping Mrs. Arroyo in power?" *With a report from Norman Bordadora*

JOAN BONDOC

**AND THE WINNER** is Calderon all smiles after feeling nervous "like a groom on the eve of his wedding day."

# 'Mr. Cool' says goodbye with a song; he'll say hello soon

From page A1

song faded in the air than Transportation Secretary Leandro Mendoza quipped in a video tape message to him: "Welcome to the Cabinet."

Lomibao is retiring as PNP chief as he turns 56 today, and his departure has sparked talk that he might be back as director of the National Bureau of Investigation.

Lomibao made no effort to kill rumors that a new government post is waiting for him.

"If given another chance to serve government, I will make myself available," Lomibao told reporters during an advance birthday bash for him at Camp Crame on Monday night, where he sang the Denver piece "Leaving on a Jet Plane," the audience at times joining him.

### 'Mr. Cool'

Lomibao, called "Mr. Cool" because he is not known to raise his voice, said his other options were farming and traveling.

"I will sleep for at least a week to reenergize, then do some travelling and come back to reality as an ordinary citizen," he said.

But his immediate plan is to stroll on the beaches of Boracay, where he has built what his men say is a "world-class police station."

Lomibao had made it a priority to upgrade police stations, especially in areas where his men work in dilapidated quarters. Colleagues say this is his true legacy.

### Loyal to the Chief

Lomibao is also known as the police chief who stayed loyal to his commander and kept the police from disintegrating. He had said the foiled plot of some of his troopers in the Special Action Force to take him hostage and force him into withdrawing support from Ms Arroyo last February was his biggest crisis during his 16 months in office.

Lomibao believes he is leaving the PNP more solid than before.

"We are more united and we have the SAF solidly behind the PNP and government institutions. I do not see any disintegration of the SAF or any unit of the PNP now or in the future," he said.

### Crisis after crisis

Chief Supt. Rafael Rafanan said it was Lomibao's "coolness" during difficult situations that served him well.

"The others could already be rattled ... but I saw how cool he was in handling a crisis," Rafanan said.

One crisis after another hounded Lomibao during his term at the PNP helm.

He had to skip ceremonies marking his assumption of the PNP command on March 14 last year because that was the day when Abu Sayyaf detainees chose to seize their jail in Taguig City.

### Infamous CPR

The crisis ended with 23 people dead—one of them an SAF trooper—and accusations that the police had used an iron hand in resolving the situation.

Then the "jueteng" controversies and the "Hello Garci" scandal triggered by accusations that Ms Arroyo conspired with former Election Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano to rig the 2004 election rocked the nation and Lomibao had to put down massive street demonstrations.

They gave birth to the infamous calibrated preemptive response (CPR) policy, which allowed police to break up street protests, whether peaceful or not.

Rumors of destabilization flew and Lomibao had to repeatedly assure the public that the police were behind the chain of command.

### Abat caper

Once, a senior officer found himself in an awkward situation when his in-law, retired Defense Secretary Fortunato Abat, challenged the Arroyo administration by proclaiming a new "government."

Because of the family ties, the officer, Chief Supt. Jaime Caringal, then director of the Civil Security Group, was perceived to be supporting Abat but Caringal said Lomibao handled the situation superbly.

"He told me that he does not believe all the information that was coming to him ... The moment any information came to him, the first thing he did was call me up to confirm it," Caringal said.

The Abat caper dissolved into a comedy. Lomibao later appointed Caringal police director of the the Zamboanga peninsula to show that his confidence in his man was unsoiled.

### A different man

Lomibao's tenure also saw a sharp increase in political killings. The police responded by creating Task Force Usig, but it failed to check the wave of murders.

Militants accused the outgoing PNP chief of being interested only in defending Ms Arroyo and not the people he was supposed to serve.

### Frontliners vs crime

Colleagues saw a different man in Lomibao, saying he truly cared for "the little people."

"He has this vision of really strengthening the police stations because these are the frontliners in law enforcement," said Chief Supt. German Doria, a former top aide and now police head of Central Mindanao.

Under Lomibao's term, 54 new stations mushroomed nationwide. About 51 are under construction and administrative or bidding processes are going on for 48 others.

One of the last controversies that Lomibao faced was the police decision to dispense with bidding in the procurement of about P322 million worth of cars, handguns and high-speed motorcycles.

Director Noe Wong, logistics chief, said the decision was intended to enable the police to get the best equipment possible in the fastest way possible.

A widower, Lomibao is leaving behind a little footnote to his career. Few people know that he was one of the young officers who in the 1970s helped capture Bernabe Buscayno, the legendary New People's Army fighter known as "Kumander Dante."

*With a report from Nancy Carvajal*

# Fil-Am woman sues Brando estate executors

From page A1

Rebecca) of executing a codicil to Brando's will 13 days before his death, which transferred power to them from the former trustees who were his longtime advisers.

She claimed that the actor was suffering from "a plethora of diseases" and was too ill to sign anything. She suggested that his signature was forged on the codicil.

The Courthouse News Service, a news wire for lawyers in California, quoted Borlaza as saying that Brando was "incapacitated, confused, medicated and noncommunicative at the time of the alleged signing ceremony."

She also said that Brando had trained her to recognize his signature, and that she "is informed and believes" he did not sign the codicil.

### Dementia

Brando apparently used a "secret code" to authenticate his signature, placing "certain dots (....) between various letters of his name when signing documents.

Borlaza said Brando had pulmonary fibrosis, dementia and other ailments on June 18, 2004, when Dressler and lawyer Charles Larson arrived at his Beverly Hills home and she ushered them into his bedroom.

She said the men told Brando they were there to change his will.

The changes were "designed to isolate [Brando] from his longtime trusted advisers and personal friends in order to facilitate a takeover of [his] financial and personal affairs during [his] life and gain control over [his] estate after his death," the suit said.

Borlaza claimed that during the meeting, a handyman was summoned to witness the signing, but that she believed Brando never signed anything because he was incapable of doing so.

The original trustees of Brando's estate were Alice Marchak, his assistant and confidante of about 50 years, and Jo Ann Corrales, his business manager of some 40 years.

Both were fired shortly before his death, according to Borlaza.

### 'Loving relationship'

Borlaza (identified in the New York Daily News as Angela Borlaza Magaling) said she was hired in 1995 as Brando's cook and eventually became the "majordomo" of his residence and his personal assistant.

She also said she "acted in his stead when he was not home."

"During the last years of his life, [Borlaza] and [Brando] had a loving and close relationship," the suit said.

Borlaza said that as compensation for her work, Brando bought her a house in San Fernando Valley where she lived with her children and her sister, who came over from the Philippines. (Brando biographer Peter Manso said Borlaza's husband also lived in the house.)

She claimed that Brando purchased the house for her in 2002 but kept it in his name for tax purposes, promising her that the deed would be transferred to her before his death.

But Brando "became too ill and failed" to do so, the suit said.

It claimed that many people knew of the agreement and that when Borlaza approached Medavoy about it after Brando's death, he assured her repeatedly "that she had nothing to worry about concerning the house, that the estate was going to do the right thing by her."

"It was not until [Borlaza] was evicted in early March of 2005, [that she] realized that she was being lied to and deceived by defendant Medavoy," the suit said.

Borlaza said the house had been sold and that she was seeking the proceeds from the sale as well as $2 million in punitive damages.

Neither Medavoy nor Dressler could be reached for comment.

### 'Sad, sad story'

Manso, author of "Brando: The Biography," said about six other lawsuits had been filed (including by Corrales and Marchak) since the actor died, but Borlaza's suit may serve to uncover details of his final days.

"We need to know what happened to Marlon in the last year of his life," Manso said. "It's a sad, sad story. Marlon Brando was one of the great artists of the 20th century whose personal life was known for disorder, and now it continues after his death."

Manso added that Brando was long estranged from the Hollywood hierarchy, and that it was "a great cultural irony that mainstream people in Hollywood would come in to take over his estate."

The New York Daily News reported that in the new issue of Playboy magazine, Manso quoted friends of Brando as saying that as the health of the movie legend grew worse, "he became more and more dependent on Angela Borlaza Magaling, the married Filipina housekeeper who is said to have been his lover."

Corrales was worried that "Brando felt trapped by Borlaza, who moved into his hilltop compound with her two children and her sister," Manso said.

He also quoted Corrales as saying that she remembered Brando phoning her and telling her, "Please, Jo Ann, I want you to write this down: Emotional involvement with Angela getting out of hand. Marlon wants out. Angela has too much power."

### Large empire

According to the Courthouse News Service, the executors of Brando's estate, represented by Larson, have sold off many of his assets.

They allegedly made a $2-million deal with a Tahiti-based businessman who planned to develop Brando's beloved South Pacific island, Tetiaroa, as an "eco-resort."

Brando "had a large estate and being in control of [it] was and is a prestigious and valuable job," Borlaza's suit said.

It added that the executors "have received and will continue to receive, for years to come, substantial financial gain for controlling the Marlon Brando empire."

*With reports from AP, Reuters*

# Romulo visit to Burma reset; Suu Kyi meet uncertain

FOREIGN SECRETARY ALBERTO ROMULO said yesterday he is postponing this week's planned visit to Burma (Myanmar) by at least a month because the two sides cannot agree on the timing of the trip.

The Philippine government had announced that Romulo would be flying to Yangon on July 5-9 at the invitation of Burma's reclusive military rulers.

Romulo dismissed suggestions that the delay was due to his request for a meeting with Aung San Suu Kyi, the Nobel peace laureate who remains under house arrest, having spent 10 of the past 17 years in detention.

"I was told that I would be meeting the top (officials), the chairman, the foreign minister. I expressed also my desire to meet Suu Kyi," Romulo told reporters.

"The places where I will go and the people I will meet are clear. But we cannot agree on the date. I could have gone there last week, but I was in Spain and Italy" accompanying President Macapagal-Arroyo on her European tour.

The Burma visit should proceed "hopefully by next month. We have not agreed on the date. There was already a proposed date," he added.

Asked if he would go ahead with the trip if his request to meet the opposition leader is denied, Romulo said: "My desire is to meet her. We'll cross the bridge when we get there."

Romulo stressed that the visit would not be on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean), although the Philippines will assume the revolving chairmanship of the organization on July 28.

Malaysian Foreign Minister Syed Hamid Albar was refused a meeting with Aung San Suu Kyi when he visited Yangon as Asean's envoy in March.

Asean's policy of "constructive engagement" with Burma has led to friction with key trading partners the United States and the European Union.

"Our (Asean) policy has been the same, the roadmap to peace and democracy and it has been expressed by the President in international fora. The roadmap to democracy is the important point," Romulo said.

Asean comprises Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Burma, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

Burma's ruling junta crushed pro-democracy demonstrations in 1988 and two years later rejected the results of national elections won by Aung San Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy.

*AFP*

ROMULO

SUU KYI

# Vintage WWII bomb found at Naia 3 road

By Nikko Dizon

A 1,000 POUND World War II bomb WAS discovered early Monday night at a construction site near the still-to-be-opened Ninoy Aquino International Airport (Naia) Terminal 3.

The vintage bomb was unearthed at around 6:15 p.m. by a backhoe at the excavation site for the cargo road being built for the Naia 3, said Robert Uy, an official of the Manila International Airport Authority (Miaa).

The cargo road would lie perpendicular to the access road connecting the Naia 3 and the Naia Centennial Terminal.

A bomb squad from the Philippine National Police-Aviation Security Group (PNP-ASG) was immediately dispatched to the scene.

Members of the Airport Police Department (APD) and Miaa engineers also rushed to the area.

Supt. Rizalino Roxas, Airport Security Center (ASC) operations chief, said the four-foot long vintage bomb was brought to a clearing at the Naia complex at around 5:30 p.m. yesterday.

Roxas said it took a while for the bomb to be moved from the construction site because a crane was needed to lift it from where it had been embedded for years.

Roxas said experts were still studying what to do with the bomb.

Detonating it would seem out of the question because of its size, the official added.

Roxas explained that the area where the bomb was discovered used to be part of the Nichols Air Base which was bombed by the Japanese during World War II.

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  July 15, 2006 Saturday 1:00 PM-5:00 PM
- BUSINESS WORK ETHICS, WORK ATTITUDES AND PROFESSIONALISM ON THE JOB
  July 22, 2006 Saturday 1:00 PM-5:00 PM
- CREATIVE PROBLEM SOLVING AND DECISION MAKING
  July 29, 2006 Saturday 1:00 PM-5:00 PM
- NEGOTIATION SKILLS
  August 5, 2006 Saturday 1:00 PM-5:00 PM

B. REGULAR PROGRAMS
- ACCOUNTING FOR NON-ACCOUNTANTS
  July 15 - August 12, 2006 Saturday 9:00 AM-12:00 NN
- SUPERVISORY DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP TRAINING
  July 17 - 28, 2006 M-W-F 6:00 PM-8:00 PM
- SMART TECHNIQUES FOR BETTER COMMUNICATION (ORAL and WRITTEN)
  July 17 - 28, 2006 M-W-F 6:00 PM-8:00 PM
- LAW FOR NON-LAWYERS
  July 15 - 29, 2006 Saturday 1:00 PM-5:00 PM
- MATERIALS AND INVENTORY MANAGEMENT
  July 22 - August 5, 2006 Saturday 1:00 PM-5:00 PM
- WRITING THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING
  July 15, 2006 Saturday 1:00 PM-5:00 PM

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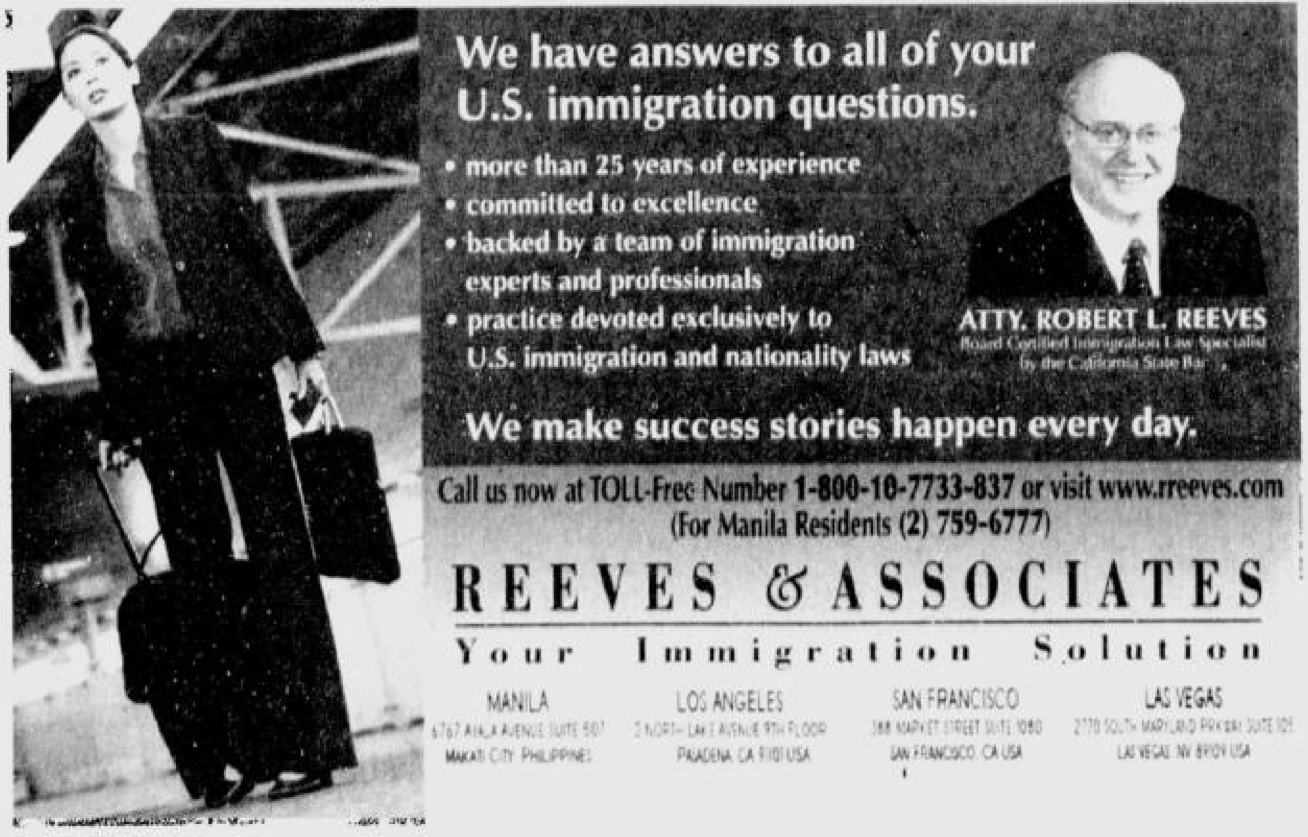

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# Court defers arraignment of 2 in Oakwood case

**By Jocelyn R. Uy**

A MAKATI COURT YESTERDAY DEFERRED THE arraignment of two retired officers who had been charged with coup d'etat together with former Sen. Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan for their alleged part in the failed July 2003 Oakwood Mutiny.

Judge Oscar Pimentel of the Makati Regional Trial Court Branch 148 said the court has yet to resolve the motion for re-determination of the existence of probable cause filed by retired Colonels Virgilio Briones and Romeo Lazo before it could proceed with the indictment.

"The motion has not yet been resolved. The court needs time to go over the more than 350 pages of the records of the case," Pimentel said yesterday. The arraignment was reset for July 18.

The motion for re-determination of probable cause, which was also equivalent to a motion to quash the case against the two retired soldiers, was filed on June 21—four days after they were arrested in separate raids in Quezon City.

Lazo and Briones each had a P500,000 bounty for their arrest after the Department of Justice filed a rebellion case in February against them, including Honasan, and two more retired officers—Col. Ernesto Macahiya and Capt. Felix Turingan.

## Co-accused

Also named in the charge sheet were members of Honasan's Senate staff identified as George Duldulao and Lina Reyes.

Briones and Lazo's counsel, Ramon Maronilla, stated in the motion that "they were deprived sufficient opportunity to file their petition for review and move for the deferment of their arrest (which is a component of procedural and substantive due process) pending review of their case by the DOJ."

The accused filed a petition for review before the justice department alleging that no probable cause existed to warrant the filing of case against them and they should not be held liable to undergo the rigors of a public trial. But it has yet to be resolved.

"The failure of DOJ to resolve their [petition] has constrained accused to respectfully implore the [presiding judge] to review and re-determine the issue of lack of probable cause," Maronilla stated.

He also requested the court to dismiss the case against the two accused after founding out that probable cause did not exist.

The court would also decide on the motion of the defense panel to hear the case separately.

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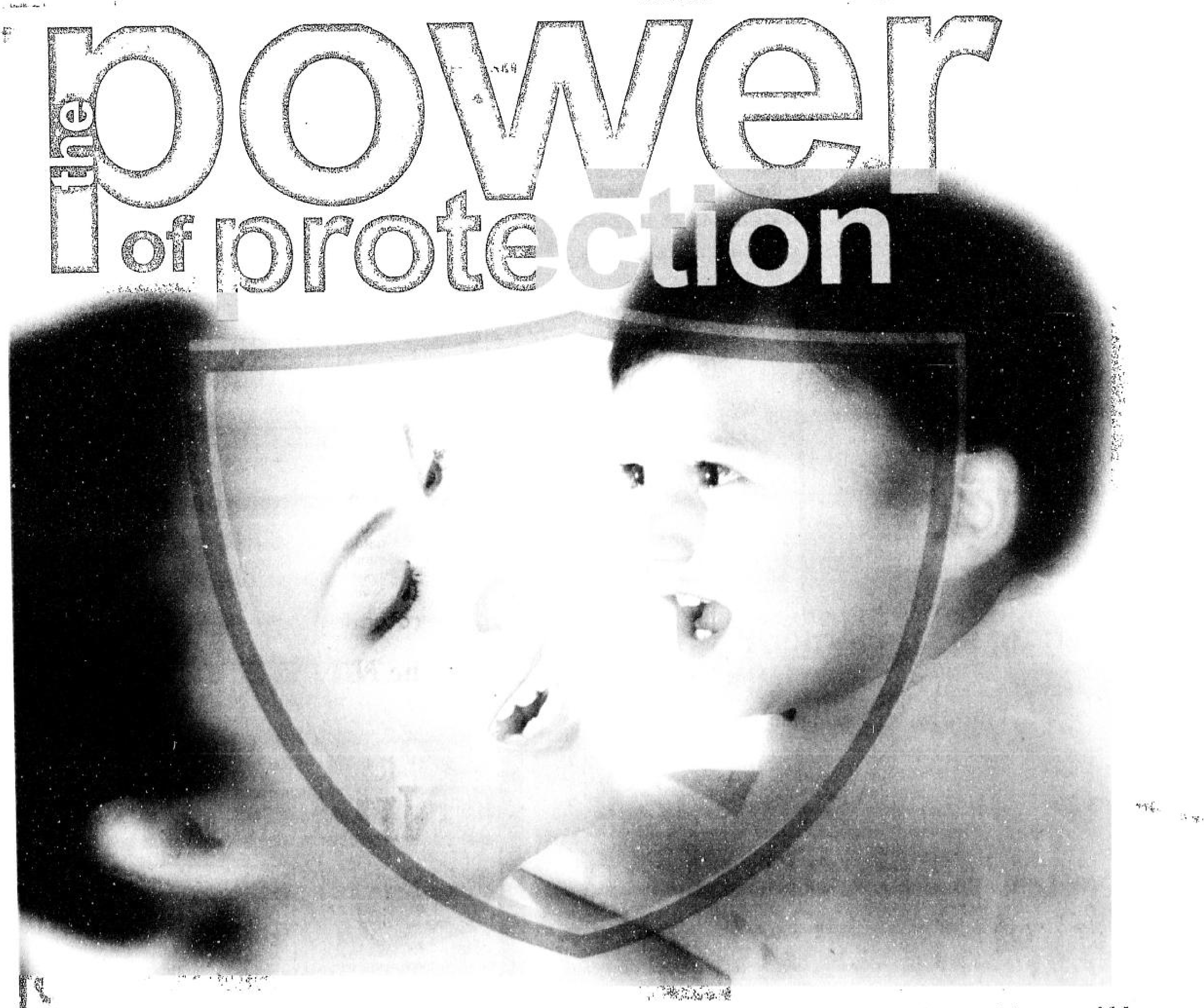

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# ‘Ban names of pols, kin from gov’t projects’

**By Michael Lim Ubac**

PARTY-LIST LAWmakers yesterday filed a bill seeking to stop the practice of naming public facilities after an incumbent elected public official or his relatives’ name or initials.

Authored by militant Representatives Teodoro Casiño, Liza Maza, Satur Ocampo, Joel Virador, Crispin Beltran and Rafael Mariano, House Bill No. 5497 seeks to criminalize the use of politicians’ family names in public projects and facilities.

At a press conference, Casiño said the bill was a “small step” toward abolishing the country’s dynastic politics as mandated by the 1987 Constitution.

“What we want is for incumbent officials not to use their powers to get unfair advantage over their rivals. Obviously, they use taxpayers’ money to hold on to power, further perpetuating their political dynasty,” said Casiño.

He said members of Congress, local executives and other national officials should not name projects, public facilities, or programs of the government after their wives, sons, daughters, parents, grandparents and cousins.

# Bataan gov’t owns hotel, high court rules

**By Leila B. Salaverria**

THE SUPREME COURT HAS UPHELD THE Bataan government’s ownership of a hotel and the land on which it stands, which were earlier sequestered from the Bataan Shipyard and Engineering Co. Inc. (Baseco).

The Bataan government is considered the owner of the Piazza Hotel and the hotel’s land area in Mariveles town because its name appears on the title and the tax declaration covering the disputed property, the tribunal said.

Programme Incorporated had earlier claimed ownership of the hotel, which it leased from Baseco from 1986 to 1989 and on a monthly basis thereafter.

In April 1989, the Presidential Commission on Good Government sequestered Baseco’s assets, including the Piazza Hotel.

In July of the same year, the hotel was put up for sale at a public auction because of nonpayment of taxes. The winning bidder was the Bataan government.

Programme Incorporated subsequently filed before the regional trial court a complaint for collection of money against Baseco. But the Bataan government, as the new owner of the property, intervened and asked the court to order Programme Incorporated to vacate the Piazza Hotel.

The RTC ruled that the Bataan government was the hotel’s rightful owner. The Court of Appeals later upheld the ruling.

The Supreme Court decision read in part: “The evidence clearly established respondent’s ownership of Piazza Hotel.

“First, the title of the land on which Piazza Hotel stands was in the name of the respondent. Second, Tax Declaration No. 12782 was in the name of respondent as owner of Piazza Hotel.”

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## Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

### Circular No. 534
Series of 2006

***Subject*: DISCLOSURE OF REMITTANCE CHARGES AND OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION**

Pursuant to Monetary Board Resolution No. 742 dated 08 June 2006, the rules and regulations governing the disclosure of remittance charges and other relevant information are hereby issued, as follows:

"*Disclosure of remittance charges and other relevant information.* It is the policy of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas to promote the efficient delivery of competitively-priced remittance services by banks and other remittance service providers by promoting competition and the use of innovative payment systems, strengthening the financial infrastructure, enhancing access to formal remittance channels in the source and destination countries, deepening the financial literacy of consumers, and improving transparency in remittance transactions, consistent with sound banking practices.

Towards this end, banks and non-bank financial institutions under BSP supervision, including foreign exchange dealers/money changers and remittance agents, providing overseas remittance services shall disclose to the remittance sender and to the recipient/beneficiary, the following minimum items of information regarding remittance transactions, as defined herein:

a. Transfer/remittance fee – charge for processing/sending the remittance from the country of origin to the country of destination and/or charge for receiving the remittance at the country of destination;

b. Exchange rate – rate of conversion from foreign currency to local currency, *e.g.*, peso-dollar rate;

c. Exchange rate differential/spread – foreign exchange mark-up or the difference between the prevailing BSP reference/guiding rate and the exchange/conversion rate;

d. Other currency conversion charges – commissions or service fees, if any;

e. Other related charges – *e.g.*, surcharges, postage, text message or telegram;

f. Amount/Currency paid out in the recipient country -- exact amount of money the recipient should receive in local currency or foreign currency; and

g. Delivery time to recipients/beneficiaries -- delivery period of remittance to beneficiary stated in number of days, hours or minutes.

Banks and non-bank remittance service providers shall likewise post said information in their respective websites and display them prominently in conspicuous places within their premises and/or remittance/service centers."

This Circular shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication either in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

For the Monetary Board:

(*Sgd.*) **NESTOR A. ESPENILLA, JR.**
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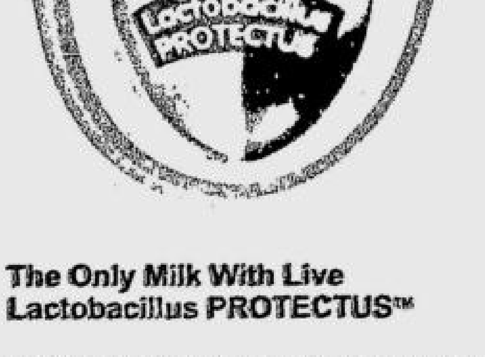

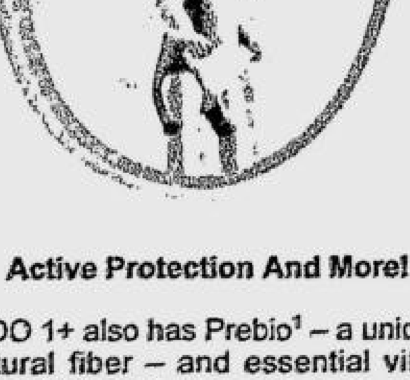

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# OPINION

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## Fallen stars

**EDITORIAL**

IT TOOK MONTHS FOR A CRUCIAL AND INCONtestable piece of evidence to surface. But it wasn't the intelligence arm of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, or the National Bureau of Investigation, or the Philippine National Police that did it. It was the media. Monday night, during the premier of its new nightly news show, "Bandila," ABS-CBN played a video of Army Brig. Gen. Danilo Lim proclaiming his "withdrawal of support." And more.

Lim said: "We cannot stand idly by while the rule of law, the moral order and the integrity of our institutions, the very future of our country and people and our own professional careers are destroyed by this bogus president. We cannot afford to do nothing while she and her cohorts turn our government into a criminal syndicate. We cannot allow ourselves to be used as a tool of injustice and oppression and we must act, we must act now."

Lim in full battle dress, seated behind a table with three uniformed men in the background, said he and his men were withdrawing their support from the President in keeping with their constitutional duty to be the "protector of the people and the state to end her unconstitutional and illegal occupation of the presidency." He called on President Macapagal-Arroyo to accept the formation of a new government composed of civilians backed by the soldiers. He said: "We call on Mrs. Arroyo to accept gracefully the formation of a new government. As soldiers, we don't seek political power for ourselves, but we shall not allow anyone to use political power to commit crimes against our people, or to pursue their own personal agenda at the expense of the national interest." He went on to appeal to "all our comrades in arms to discharge their genuine responsibilities to our people with full dedication and fervor. We call on our people to support the men and women at the forefront of this undertaking."

With the video, the charges against Lim of violating the Penal Code provisions against coup d'etat and the Articles of War virtually become ironclad.

But why did it take so long for the video to surface? And why did the video surface in the media first?

While ABS-CBN has not, and most likely will not (and it should not) reveal its source for the video, obviously someone, somewhere, in a position to be in the know about the video, thought it was time to let the public see it. The timing, as the administration battles with Catholic prelates and does its usual finessing on the question of the accountability of election officials, is certainly convenient. Four, or even three or two months ago, with the unity and the command structure of the AFP still brittle, the administration couldn't afford to let the public or the military see that tape. Now, there has been enough water under the bridge to risk it.

What the airing of the videotape has done is open up the same can of worms: allegations of generals participating in electoral fraud, the legitimacy of the President and the conduct of her government. In other words, the fundamental issues that have divided Philippine society over the past year at least. It points to the lack of accountability and the consequences of stonewalling and official refusal to face the music: the adoption of the view, by some, that desperate times call for desperate measures and putting them into action.

That desperation and those measures were wrong, of course. They are as unforgivable as the illegitimacy and tyranny her opponents accuse the President of symbolizing. Flirting with military rebels and now, as the tape proves, the willingness of some of those rebels to take things into their hands have irretrievably muddled the issues, at one point posing a grave danger to the democratic space.

After all the noise and alarms of last February, the AFP has treaded gingerly around Lim, and handled those accused of rebellion with kid gloves. The release of this video, in a sense, forces the military's hands. The AFP will not like this. It reminds the public that first and foremost, it takes care of its own. At the same time, it must deal with two images, neither of which inspires confidence: of generals allegedly conspiring to commit election fraud, and other generals allegedly conspiring to mount a coup and scrap the Constitution.

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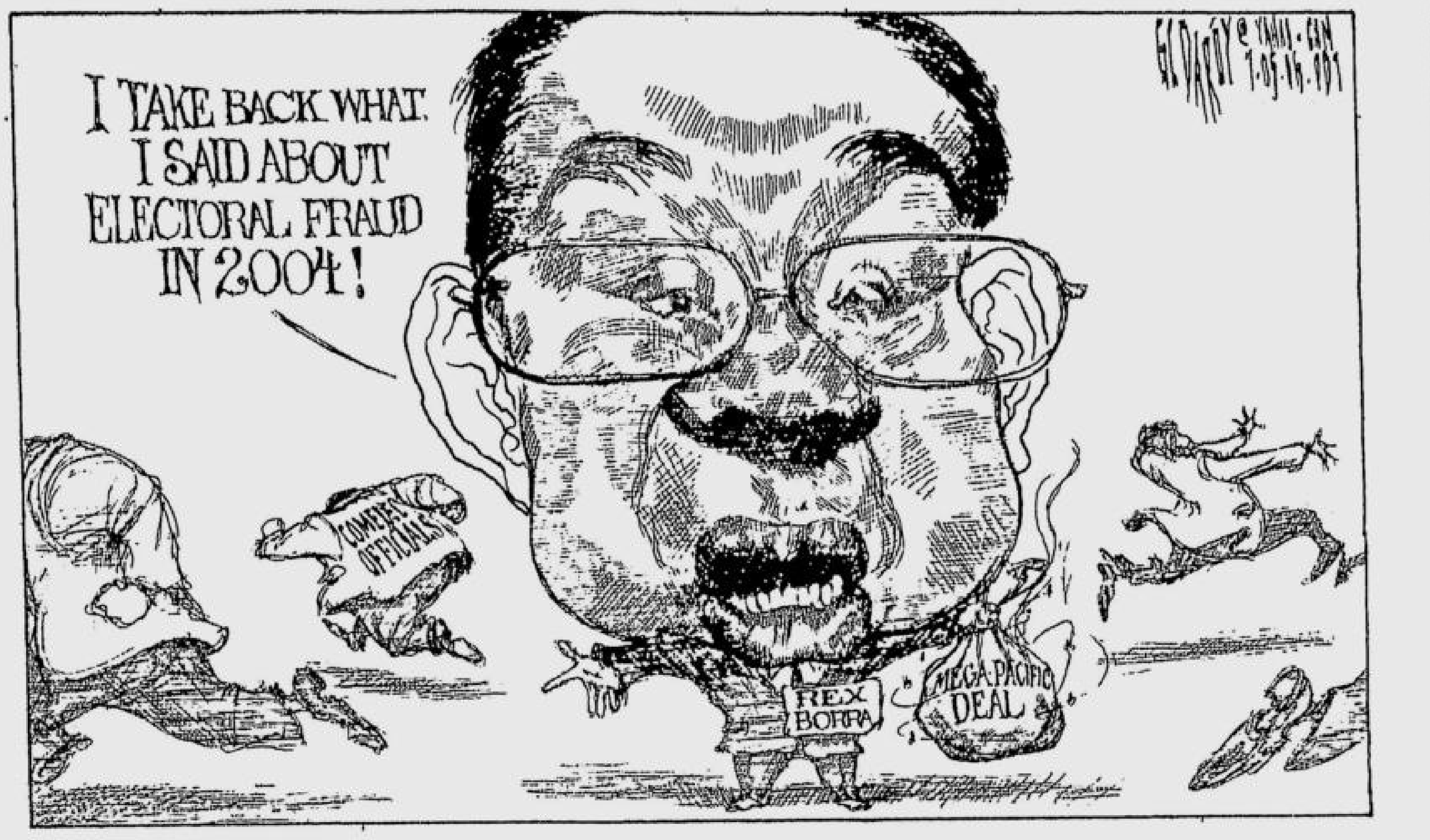
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## FVR on GMA's all-out war: Nyet!

### AS I SEE IT

*Neal H. Cruz*

I CHANCED UPON FORMER PRESIDENT FIdel V. Ramos at the wake for columnist Larry Sipin who passed away last Sunday. He had just arrived from Singapore (he is the most peripatetic ex-President we ever had) and went straight to the funeral parlor after changing into denims and a blue T-shirt. And he was perorating on President Macapagal-Arroyo's all-out war against the New People's Army and the Communist Party of the Philippines.

"It is unfair to the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Philippine National Police to give them a deadline of a few months to wipe out the CPP and the NPA," he said. "Just because GMA gave them P1 billion doesn't mean they can do the job even in two years. It's not a question of money. Even if you give them P10 billion, they can't do it within her deadline."

Since Ramos is a former general and should know what he is talking about, the journalists around him were all ears. "The number of soldiers and policemen we have now has not increased since the mid-1960s," he said. "Even if you put all of them on one island, say Panay, they would only be swallowed up by the countryside. So what can two or three battalions do?"

What the former general was saying is that money, firepower and a big number of soldiers cannot stop a guerrilla war in the countryside. That was proven in Vietnam where pajama-clad, barefoot guerrillas sent the mighty American armed forces back home. Iraqi guerrillas are repeating the feat against the United States and its allies in Iraq. We have had Filipino guerrillas fighting the government for decades and no end is in sight. In short, a mailed-fist policy can never quell a rebellion. The Spaniards, the Americans and the Japanese tried it, one after the other, and they never succeeded in eliminating the guerrillas or the rebellions.

The solution lies in addressing the grievances of the rebels. If the P1 billion given to the AFP to kill brother Filipinos were spent instead to fight poverty and injustice, the result would be much better.

* * *

**Which brings us to Sen. Jamby Madrigal talking to CPP leaders Jose Ma. Sison and Luis Jalandoni in the Netherlands. Malacañang wants the Senate to censure Madrigal for meeting with them and signing a communiqué calling for peace talks between the Philippine government and the CPP-NPA and the National Democratic Front (NDF). What's wrong with that? What's wrong with talking peace and trying to find a solution to the age-old communist problem? While the two sides are talking, fewer Filipinos would be dying of bullet wounds.**

**Former Sen. Loren Legarda also went to the Netherlands to talk with Sison and Jalandoni. Speaker Jose de Venecia did the same thing, if I am not mistaken. Nobody censured them at the time; on the contrary, they were praised for trying to find peace. Given the chance, GMA herself would jump at the opportunity. So why is Madrigal being excoriated for her efforts?**

**The reason is that Malacañang and pro-administration leaders were beaten to it. The reason is that the administration is in the grip of the extremely rightist Gonzalez twins (Raul and Norberto) and the rightist generals who think that all they need is enough guns and bullets and the enemy would be wiped out.**

* * *

The Presidential Commission on Good Government has had many commissioners and chairmen but the most disappointing of all—in fact, the lowest of the low—are the incumbents: Commissioner Ricardo Abcede and Chair Camilo Sabio. The two want to conclude a compromise agreement with the Marcoses on their ill-gotten wealth so much that it makes you want to puke and wonder what they have in mind.

Abcede is willing to drop about 500 cases against Imelda and members of her family in exchange for a part of the alleged Marcos ill-gotten wealth estimated at (by Imelda's own estimate) $5 billion to $10 billion. Filipinos think that is letting thieves get away with their loot and do not want any compromise agreement. It would only teach future thieves that if you are going to steal, steal big so that you can share some of it with the government and get away with the bulk of the loot.

Imelda has already said with finality that she doesn't want any compromise, but Abcede said he would still continue to negotiate. This can only mean that Abcede is too lazy or too incompetent to prosecute the cases or he doesn't have enough evidence to win the cases. At the very least, he must be very gullible to believe Imelda's boast that she has between $5 billion and $10 billion stashed away somewhere. This claim is too much even for a braggart like Imelda, and only someone like Abcede would be foolish enough to believe her.

For insisting on negotiating a compromise agreement, both Abcede and Sabio should be cited for contempt by the Supreme Court. The Court has already disallowed a compromise agreement with the Marcoses. In a Dec. 9, 1998 decision, it ruled that a compromise settlement between the PCGG and the Marcoses was "illegal and void, and the stipulation to drop pending criminal cases against the Marcoses was an encroachment on judicial power."

The Court also said that the "PCGG has no authority to enter into a compromise agreement with the Marcoses, nor could it grant tax exemptions to the Marcos family."

In spite of this clear ruling and the definitive statement of Imelda that she doesn't want a compromise, why are Abcede and Sabio still so hot about arriving at a compromise? Why doesn't the President fire them? Or is it GMA who wants a compromise?

## Jail them

### THERE'S THE RUB

*Conrado de Quiros*

ONE OF THE FUNNIEST THINGS I'VE READ over the past weeks was our news item last Sunday. It said Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez opposed the idea of Election Commissioner Resurreccion Borra or, heaven forbid, his fellow commissioners being impeached. Should that happen, Gonzalez warned, it would greatly affect the 2007 elections. The public, he said, would not trust an electoral body that will have its attention divided between preparing for those elections and attending to the legal case against its top officials.

But of course, filing impeachment charges against Borra and company will greatly affect the 2007 elections. It will make them honest. What on earth makes Gonzalez think the public trusts the Comelec now? For that matter, what makes him think the public trusts him? What makes him think he and the word "justice" have any connection whatsoever? What makes him think his utterances are of any consequence to any Filipino in his or her right mind?

If anything, the public is bound to trust more, and not less, a Comelec that is distracted by an impeachment suit against its current commissioners. At the very least that is so because its commissioners being scrutinized, or hounded by the Furies, for wrongdoing is going to make them a little more reluctant to join the ranks of the defendants if they are their replacements, or to add to the charges if they are the commissioners themselves. It is no guarantee of course—there are no longer any limits to the brazenness with which this country's officials screw the law, taking their cue from their boss—but it is better than nothing.

At the very most having their attention divided between attending to their duties and attending to their impeachment, the commissioners won't be able to devote their entire energies to screwing the voters, which is how they've interpreted their duty since GMA came along. To this day, they remain innumerate, unable to count anything except peso bills. My apologies to the employees in that office who remain reasonably honest, who are probably the clerks and janitors.

But Aquilino Pimentel is right: Why only Borra and why impeachment? The Mega Pacific scandal, which consisted of the Comelec awarding the bid to computerize canvassing to a patently unqualified bidder, one that had just been put together thereby grossly violating the first criterion which was that the bidder should have been around for several years, was approved by the commissioners en banc. If the argument is that the other commissioners did it in good faith, then they are monumentally incompetent, or downright stupid, signing things they have not scrutinized or understood. Their good faith can only represent a bad fate for the voters, and the country at large. Indeed why impeachment when there is a simpler, more direct and complete solution to the problem, which is to file criminal charges against the commissioners? That is how it's done in the United States, where the officials of electoral bodies are not regarded as being in the same league as the president and chief justice and deserving of impeachment.

In this case the criminal charges are more than richly deserved. The crime is exorbitant, as I've been saying since that scandal began, and to this day I do not know why we have not only not done anything to punish the wrongdoers but do not even appreciate the scale of the wrongdoing. What did the commissioners do when they awarded the bid to Mega Pacific?

At the very least, they set back more than one decade of hard work and harder expense to computerize voting, something that has taken several presidents, Comelecs and Congresses and many billions of pesos to trail-blaze. When it was finally there, they decided to take the wrong path, completely willingly. Computerization remains the easiest way to curb fraud. The longer counting takes, the easier it gets to mess around with, as happened massively in the Muslim South in the last elections, ballot-switching being the order of the day. Tawi-Tawi and environs never voted: their votes were made and counted beforehand by other hands. Computerization—in the hands of a reputable firm, which has proven safeguards, which has a track record for competence, and which stands to lose a lot from the slightest whiff of irregularity. Not Mega Pacific.

At the very most, the commissioners made it possible, if that wasn't their intention to begin with, for electoral manipulation of epic proportions to happen in this country. If they had gotten Mega Pacific to count the votes, well, the people who should prosecute them should look into that fly-by-night's patron and see if he isn't the biggest crook in this country, one who knows only how to count peso bills, although he has never been penalized (or "pidalized"). As it is, by being found out to have given the award to the wrong bidder, the commissioners threw us back four years into the new millennium into the Dark Ages of ballot boxes, where goons, generals, Garcis and Comelec commissioners, who are often interchangeable, are absolutely and omnipotently free to decide who should rule this country.

Corruption is the last of the commissioners' crimes. Engineering a fake president is first.

The public won't trust a Comelec whose commissioners are reeling from criminal charges? It is the only way it will trust it. Indeed more than filing charges against them, make them go on leave, preferably permanently. I've always said the conditions for "snap elections," which we should have well before next year's regular one, are two. One is to dredge the Comelec as you would a canal; two is to computerize the elections. That is the only way we can have a real President, not one whose very smile is fake.

Even better, just jail them.

# Did Supreme Court give its nod to live-in unions?

## COMMENTARY

*Fr. Ranhilio Callangan Aquino*

I USUALLY DO NOT READ TABLOIDS BUT A FEW days ago, one carried an article intriguingly entitled, "OK na ang live-in ayon sa SC." I immediately thought Estrada v. Escritor, a case the Court had dealt with in 2003. Of course, the Court never said—and could never have said—that live-in unions are OK, but putting things as the tabloid did is certainly one reason tabloids sell!

Escritor was an administrative case against a judicial employee charged with immorality. In 2003, it took all of 200-plus pages for the Supreme Court, through Senior Associate Justice Reynato S. Puno, to rule on the key issue. I recommend both the Resolution of 2003, and the Resolution of June 22, 2006 to any serious student of constitutional law who desires a comprehensive yet concise review of the complex constitutional principles governing relations between Church and State. The two resolutions are characteristic of Puno's *ponencias*: well-researched, persuasively argued and thoroughly analytic. It is these subtler points of constitutional theory that one misses when one is preoccupied with "live-ins." Like any piece of jurisprudence, Escritor goes beyond Soledad Escritor and the interesting meanderings of her life!

Escritor was charged with immorality for living-in with a man who was not her husband and who was, like Escritor, estranged from his spouse. Had that been the end of the story, it would not have called for 200 pages of ratiocination. It divided the Court in 2003; it has done so again this year, with Justice Antonio Carpio writing an eloquent and acutely studied dissent.

Escritor raised as a defense her freedom to live according to her religious beliefs, because she had asked for and obtained the consent of the religious sect to which she and her partner belonged to continue cohabitation. It should be emphasized that she was charged not with adultery, nor were she and her partner charged with concubinage. Rather they were administratively accused of immorality. This triggered the interesting question: How far does the freedom of religion go to justify one's actions in the face of public policy and morality?

Jefferson's "wall of separation" became, throughout the history of American constitutional theory, a wall of antipathy, sufficient to cause the removal of a state supreme court chief justice who refused to evict Moses and the Ten Commandments from his court premises! True, the "non-establishment" and "free exercise" clauses in our Constitution echo the amendments to the American Constitution that guarantee these freedoms, but every constitution must be read as a whole. Reading our Constitution in its entirety—with its numerous references to religion, its acknowledgement of its role, its concessions to religious beliefs that distinguish it sufficiently from the American Constitution—Puno arrived at the conclusion, with which most of the Court agreed, that the proper characterization of the relation between the State and religion in the Philippines is benevolent neutrality, meaning that the State will accommodate religion provided such accommodation does not offend law and public policy. Accommodation can be mandatory when the accommodation is necessary to render effect to the free exercise clause. It is permissive when the State may, but is not required, to accommodate. I take it that such is the permissibility of celebrating Masses in Halls of Justice when such an accommodation does not interfere with the business of the court at a time that the court is not in session.

When will the State bar the practice of religion, or interfere with action pursuant to religious convictions? The Court rules the "compelling state interest" test to be the applicable measure. To apply this test, one goes through three steps: first, one inquires into the "sincerity" of the belief (in contrast to a claim of piety or religiosity merely to escape mandatory regulation); second, one determines what compelling State interest there is, if any, to interfere with the practice of religion; third, one accords sanction to those means that intrude least into the free exercise of religion and that are proportionate to the attainment of a public and legal goal.

Long before Estrada v. Escritor, we have had live-in unions. They came with the dawning of post-conventional times. The Family Code has provisions on the property regime of partners cohabiting without benefit of marriage. It is certainly misleading—a misrepresentation, in fact—to say that the Court has given its nod to live-in unions. What it has done is recognize the reaches of religion and courageously draw the line between free exercise and state action for Philippine constitutional law, severing our jurisprudential dependence on American constitutional doctrine.

In Estrada v. Escritor, both in 2003 and in 2006, we address the knotty problem of State-religion relations, and we enunciate a doctrine that acknowledges its American progeny, but does not hesitate to be distinct from it and to propose a response that springs from the Constitution, the history and the culture of a people who cherish democracy but do not in the least hesitate to invoke, with sincerity, the blessings and the guidance of Divine Providence, or Almighty God, or the Lord of History!

*Fr. Ranhilio Callangan Aquino is dean of the Graduate School of Law of San Beda College.*

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# Borra's call

## AT LARGE

*Rina Jimenez-David*

CURIOUSER AND CURIOUSER HAVE BEEN DEvelopments in the case against officials of the Commission on Elections on the failed poll computerization project.

If you will recall, the Supreme Court in 2004 voided the contract between the Commission on Elections and the Mega Pacific consortium, saying that the poll body had violated not just the law but even its own bidding procedures when it awarded the contract for automated voting and counting machines.

The Court then ordered the Office of the Ombudsman to conduct an investigation and file charges against the appropriate individuals, but it would take two years and numerous reminders from the Supreme Court before the Ombudsman would issue its indictments. And when it did, it chose to focus the charges on a single Comelec commissioner—Resurreccion Borra—because he was in charge of the second phase of the modernization project, which involved precisely the machines Mega Pacific was selling.

The Ombudsman has recommended that Borra be subject to impeachment proceedings while indicting other Comelec officials and Mega Pacific officers.

Borra has, of course, cried foul, telling reporters that he feels he has been "singled out" for what was essentially a decision made by all the commissioners deliberating as a collegial body. The commissioners had issued an en banc resolution in 2003 awarding the contract to Mega Pacific even before the Bids and Awards Committee came out with its recommendation. The contract with the firm had been signed by Comelec Chair Benjamin Abalos and Mega Pacific president Willy Yu.

Why focus on Borra alone? And why were the other Comelec officials, especially Abalos, spared from any responsibility in the matter?

* * *

**OTHER reports say that as early as 2005, a panel of prosecutors from the Office of the Ombudsman had already prepared its findings on the automation project case, and the recent report is a "watered-down" version of the 2005 indictments. The initial report recommended the filing of impeachment complaints against Abalos and Commissioners Borra, Mehol Sadain and Florentino Tuazon, as well as retired Commissioners Luzviminda Tancangco and Pablo Ralph Lantion.**

**This was the report that Ombudsman Merceditas Gutierrez was accused of "sitting on" for a year, despite pressure from the Supreme Court. If you will recall, Gutierrez had resisted the directive from the Court for almost a year, citing its independence as a constitutional body and even conjuring a nightmare scenario of the anti-graft body becoming subject to the dictates of lower courts.**

**Then all of a sudden, the Ombudsman releases its recommendation. There are those who say that Borra is but a "fall guy," singled out for punishment because he candidly told a Senate hearing last year that there had been cheating in the 2004 elections. It's also worth noting that Borra is not a political appointee, having gained a seat in the commission because of his extensive experience as an election official. Is his perceived independence from Malacañang the reason he was singled out for punishment?**

* * *

I THROW my full support behind the appeal of the Black & White Movement to Borra to turn state witness against President Macapagal-Arroyo in the current impeachment case lodged against her. In a statement, Leah Navarro of the Black & White Movement appealed to Borra to tell everything he knows about the anomalous deal, and perhaps about the cheating that went on in 2004. "You have been in Comelec for 35 years," Navarro said, "don't let it go to waste. Think of your legacy."

This is his chance to come clean and reveal the story behind the rushed and careless grant of a contract to a company so obviously unqualified to carry out automated elections it scandalized the entire local IT industry. This is his chance, too, to tell all he knows about how results had been "massaged" in favor of President Macapagal-Arroyo, as indicated in the infamous "Garci" tapes.

Borra should also realize that at this time the Comelec has lost all claims to credibility and legitimacy. Since he has proclaimed his readiness to face Congress if and when he's impeached, Borra should take this as an opportunity to start a massive cleansing of the poll body. No less than major surgery is required to rehabilitate such a wounded institution as the Comelec.

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**WHAT can $2,000 buy these days? Not even a house and lot, unfortunately. And the amount can be wiped out with a single hospitalization. True, it could buy two round-trip tickets to and from Manila and the United States, but there would hardly be any money left to fund a new life there.**

**In other words, the award of $2,000 each to about 7,500 victims of human rights violations during the Marcos martial law regime is neither exorbitant nor excessive. And considering that some of those who had joined the class-action suit had lost loved ones or suffered torture at the hands of the Marcos military, $2,000 is a paltry sum, symbolic compensation at best.**

**So why is the PCGG blocking the award to the victims, who have waited some 20 years for some form of compensation? Akbayan Party-list Rep. Etta Rosales, one of the claimants, pointed out that "the bulk of these victims are poor people. No matter how small, material justice can help."**

**In other words, the amount may be small individually, but it's better than no reward at all. And the award by a Hawaii court is certainly far better than any recompense the Philippine government has offered.**

**The total amount—$35 million in a special account—while significant, is not expected to bail out the government from its fiscal woes. So why can't the government just look the other way and wish the victims well?**

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# Ice for export

## LOOKING BACK

*Ambeth R. Ocampo*

THE PAST FEW DAYS HAVE BEEN UNBEARABLY hot and humid. On days like these, one wants to stay in an air-conditioned room with a tall glass of water or a soft drink filled to the brim with ice. Then, of course, we shake the ice in the glass, thinking it will make the liquid grow colder faster.

Ice is readily available today, and yet we can't seem to have enough of it. I have lived long enough to know how ice used to be made in metal trays in a freezer, or even in plastic bags that can still be bought *tingi* from a *sari-sari* store, either solid as *yelo* or in liquid form as "ice *tubig*." Then there was "tube ice" bought from an ice plant in Quezon City and presumed to be so clean you could use it without washing. No need to break up a huge block of ice with an ice pick.

Life is much simpler now. We even have refrigerators dispensing ice water, ice cubes or crushed ice without opening the door. Ice comes from plastic non-stick trays in a no-frost freezer.

When a Filipino goes to Europe or China, he will be surprised that they seem to scrimp on ice in their drinks. We are so used to iced water, we cannot understand why they have hot drinking water in China. When you order soft drinks in Europe, you have to specify ice with your drink, and all you get will be a small cube or two.

Filipinos first got ice commercially in the 19th century, and I wonder how our ancestors took to ice, or how they processed the idea of frozen water, when the coldest they could get was drinking water stored in an earthen jar or *tapayan*. If you visit the Aguinaldo house in Kawit, Cavite, you will be shown a small cupboard in the kitchen, with a wooden door outside and tiles inside, called a *nevera* or ice box. Block ice was delivered from an ice plant (perhaps the old Manila Ice Plant that was located at the foot of Quezon Bridge, near the Metropolitan Theater), cut up into a smaller block and placed in the *nevera* to keep things cool. Aguinaldo's ice-box invites us to imagine a life when only the well-to-do had ice.

In 1856, the pioneering Tudor Ice Company was exporting what they called "crystal blocks of Yankee coldness" to Ceylon, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Canton, Singapore, Australia and Manila. You can leave it to the Americans to invent sliced bread and dream what then appeared like a weird way to strike it rich. Remember, these are people whose home-TV shopping goodies include pieces of the Berlin Wall, water from the sea of Galilee in a reliquary cross, and even a curiosity called the "shy plant" that many Filipinos will recognize as *makahiya* that grows wild almost everywhere and is being sold in little pots for a tidy sum—in US dollars.

In 1805, Fredrick Taylor told people he wanted to export ice from the United States to Martinique. Everyone thought he was crazy, including his immediate family, because he was the only one who did not get a Harvard education. (He actually refused to go to Harvard and people thought he would never amount to anything.) Well, after he made his bundle and became the Boston "Ice King," Tudor had the last laugh. (Had he been more articulate, he could have written a book titled, "What they don't teach you at Harvard.")

Tudor first exported ice to nearby Martinique, then later to Havana. His method was first to introduce ice and later extract a government monopoly on the trade. Once he got the concession, he would build an ice house that could store the regular shipments of ice from the United States, huge blocks that were cut up and sold piecemeal. By 1810, Tudor was sending Havana a regular supply of ice, and in 1833, he sent 200 tons of ice to Calcutta.

The ice came from the Boston lakes, the most famous of which was Wenham Lake Ice. The ice from there was considered so pure it stayed in storage longer, and most important of all, it was considered good enough for consumption at table. There was a difference in those days between the slush or dirty ice needed to cool or preserve food and the clean ice that was put in food or drink. Wenham Lake Ice was so popular in London that a block was put on display in the shop window and people were encouraged to come in and touch it to make sure it wasn't made of crystal.

Tudor would survey the frozen Boston lakes and remove the snow and sludge from the surface. Then a knife-like plow drawn by a horse made grooves on the surface to indicate where these ice cakes were to be cut. That having been done, workmen armed with handsaws and crowbars cut the ice neatly into blocks, which were then hauled off to an ice house, and stored tightly together to minimize loss through melting. From the ice house, these blocks of ice were packed with wood shavings, sawdust or rice chaff and loaded on to sealed ships for the long sea voyage. When these were delivered to the waiting ice houses in stations like Havana or Calcutta, they were cut up further and sold to the locals.

On average, the trip from Boston to Calcutta took 103 days. The fastest recorded trip was 86 days (close to three months), and one can only wonder how much of the ice melted en route and how much got to ports of call like Manila. In one case, out of 160 tons loaded in Boston, only 38 tons reached Calcutta. That's a loss of 76 percent, yet the Tudor Ice Company still made money.

How ice came to the Philippines and how our ancestors coped with it should make a good doctoral dissertation.

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*Comments are welcome at aocampo@ateneo.edu*

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# Thinking American

SOME TIME BACK, I WAS TALKING WITH SOME PEOPLE IN an urban poor community when one young man interrupted to ask if I could translate an English word I had used: colony.

I was surprised by the question and fumbled for a split second, realizing we didn't have a local term. Eventually, I explained the word as a place conquered and occupied (*sinakop*). To illustrate, I used the Philippines as an example, i.e., that we used to be first a colony of Spain and then of the United States.

## PINOY KASI

*Michael L. Tan*

I was in for an even greater surprise. The young man, who was in his early 20s, was incredulous. "We were occupied by the Americans?" he asked. "We were their colony?"

### Lobotomized

This wasn't a case of amnesia. We do have memories of our past, but they tend to be selective, and eclectic, a bit here, a bit there but without coherence. This young man was well aware of America; as with many other Filipinos, there is no lack of connections with that distant land with a grandaunt who had migrated many years ago to work as a nurse in New York, plus a smattering of relatives in the US Navy. He idolizes American culture, in terms of rap and popular music and Hollywood films, mainly of the "Terminator" and "Son of Chuckie" genre.

Perhaps what we're seeing is something closer to what Benedict Anderson describes, in his book "The Specter of Comparisons" as "lobotomies." It's almost as if part of our brain has been removed, leaving us with a selective memory of our colonial past, as well as a selective sensory perception of the present.

Many younger Filipinos may not be aware that for some 20 years, we celebrated Independence Day on July 4, which was America's own Independence Day and which was used, in 1946, to "grant" us independence. Rightly so, President Diosdado Macapagal moved Independence Day to June 12, traced back to the First Malolos Republic in 1898. But unintentionally, that move may have become part of our national lobotomy in the sense that many Filipinos are no longer as conscious of a long and difficult US colonial occupation and our long struggle to regain our independence.

### Social engineering

We forget that the Philippines was in many ways America's First Vietnam, First Afghanistan, First Iraq. We were one huge social laboratory where the United States tested military strategies, counter-insurgency—and social engineering. American "benevolent assimilation" sought to re-create the Filipino in their image, and succeeded.

Today, we are known in the world for our desire to emulate America in everything from our culture to our economic policies and our politics. We think American, sometimes more so than Americans.

Which need not be a bad thing in itself. To some extent, many Filipinos did imbibe some of the United States' most cherished values, including a respect for individual worth, freedom and dignity. These were the values that led to the American Revolution in the 18th century, and built the foundation for the American version of liberal democracy. The emphasis on independence and autonomy has sometimes led to an excessive aggressiveness, but more often these values have benefited the world in the way they unleashed innovation and creativity. It's that ability to think laterally, to be ourselves and speak our minds, and not just an ability to speak English, that has so far given us an advantage in the world job market.

### Fundamentalisms

Sadly, we live today in a world where religious fundamentalisms are taking over and threatening those values. On one hand, we see the Islamist variety that looks at America as nothing short of satanic, threatening local traditions and morality. But we forget that a Christian variety of religious fundamentalism is strongest in the American homeland. It is a fundamentalism that fears freedom from among its young, from women, from any group that speaks of rights.

What we see today is not a clash of Muslim and Christian civilizations but a competition of absolutist ideologies masquerading as religion. Whether of the Islamist or Christian variety, we find common threads in their contempt for so-called secularism. They preach a retreat into a world of absolutes, of black-and-white definitions, and of fighting "evil" (meaning anyone who disagrees with them) with violent force.

Even as we Filipinos continue to grapple with ideas of freedom and democracy, many are attracted by the allure of fundamentalisms. Because of our close ties to the United States, we are seduced by the American variation of fundamentalism, with all its bigotry and intolerance and simplistic notions of "right" and "wrong." The scenes are all too similar, whether in the United States or in the Philippines: burning novels like "The Da Vinci Code" and attempting to ban the film, opposing sex education and family planning, growing censorship in the media, all in the name of Christianity.

### The other America

Understanding where America came from and where it is today helps us understand why we are in the rut we are today.

I am sometimes described as "anti-American," simply because I write against American militarism and the Religious Right. But my criticism comes precisely because I was trained, maybe too well, in an American tradition of liberalism. I had American teachers in high school, regularly went to the Thomas Jefferson Center, and spent several of my college years studying in the United States.

To this day, thanks to the Internet, I remain in touch with an America that I love. I read The New York Times daily and tune in most days to National Public Radio for its incisive commentaries on American politics, as well as its fare of American culture that reflects its growing demographic diversity. Unfortunately, all that is another America for many Filipinos.

I can't help but invoke the metaphors of gender. Perhaps America tries too hard to recreate the Philippines and the world in its own male image, of GI Joe and Marlboro Man and imperial American ambassadors. (It isn't coincidental that it was only this year, after more than a hundred years of Filipino-American relations, that Washington finally assigned a woman ambassador to the Philippines.)

Perhaps America would do well to explore how she might project a gentler side, an America brimming over with a love of a good life defined beyond strip malls and consumerism and reality TV shows, an America of justice and fairness.

We Filipinos have seen America in ways more intimate than many other people. That can be both a privilege and a burden. As we continue to seek our national identity, we will never really be too far from America, and yet will need to be courageous enough to maintain some distance, charting our destiny with a determined self-confidence that should do America proud.

# Sex education as tool vs poverty

THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION has reportedly shelved its planned sex education program for public high school students because of pressure from the Church and concerned parents. The distribution of the sex modules was reportedly stopped by acting Education Secretary Fe Hidalgo after the Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines and conservative parents threatened to file a case against her before the Ombudsman if she ordered the teaching of sex to students.

This is plain and simple interference and intimidation on the part of the Church and parents who should know better than impose their archaic and outmoded outlook on sex.

Any delay in educating students on sex, starting from high school, would be detrimental to our country. It would be a step backwards. The runaway population explosion is negating all efforts at combating poverty and at providing education to the poorest of the poor. The rise in unwanted pregnancies, especially among the young and unmarried, will continue unabated.

The alarming spread of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases threatens to relegate our country to the level of the gutter, where the most backward and disease-ridden African countries belong. Even God, I think, will not look kindly on His shepherds on earth and on ignorant parents who will blindly deprive their children of a deserved education on sex.

The government should proceed posthaste to educate the young about sex. It should ignore archaic dogmas and thinking which stand in the way of progress and enlightenment.

**—APOLONIO G. RAMOS,**
**42 Mindanao St.,**
**Marikina City**

# The need to remember and defend Jose Rizal

JUNE 19, THE BIRTH DATE OF Jose Rizal, our national hero, is no longer a holiday as it was in the past. Despite his martyrdom, it seems the memory of Rizal is slowly being made to fade away.

More than a century after his unjust execution, deceitful detractors of Rizal, in their customary subtle manner, still vilify him. Usually, they proceed with the pretense of praising him, only to end up with the punch line that Rizal retracted his renunciation of the Catholic Church. Rizal never retracted. He did not "have a change of heart," as alleged by his detractors. This is discernible in his profoundly moving poem "Mi Ultimo Adios" (My Last Farewell), which was also his last cry of defiance.

The obvious motive of his detractors is to ingrain in the minds of young students that Rizal retracted. The truth is, the friars could never forgive or forget Rizal for his "Noli Me Tangere" and "El Filibusterismo." The relentless persecution and hasty execution of Rizal were instigated by the friars. On Dec. 30, 1896, two days after his mock trial, they executed him. It was still the Christmas season, but that didn't matter. There was no room for mercy, or for Christian compassion. On bended knees, Rizal's mother begged them to spare her son's life. Her plea was met with scorn. Seething with deep hatred, the friars just had to exact their pound of flesh. Rizal's exposé of their abuses and wrongdoings was unbearable.

Worthy of praise was the noble Spaniard, Luis Taviel de Andrade of the Spanish army. He gallantly defended Rizal during the trial despite the forethought that he was already a doomed man. Rizal-haters still revile him—long after his death.

But then, they also continue to discredit Rizal in a dissimulated manner. Years later, they claimed that the purported letter of retraction was in their possession. The letter was not submitted for scientific scrutiny by neutral experts. Rizal's detractors had no qualms in resorting to forgery. If the signature were genuine, the document should rightfully be in the custody of the Philippine government and not in their archives.

Galileo retracted, so the friars did not burn him at the stake. If Rizal retracted, why did they have to kill him, the eminent writer F. Sionil Jose asked.

Almost four centuries passed before the Church admitted and apologized for its error in condemning Galileo. It may also take centuries for the Church to acknowledge and apologize for its crime in executing Rizal. Nothing more need be said if the ecclesiastics cease to malign Rizal with their contemptible tale of retraction.

Very rare, if ever at all, can one see a photo and much less a statue of Rizal in Catholic schools. We need to remember him. We need to defend Rizal.

**—VICTOR MURILLO,**
**658 Maharlika St.,**
**Plainview, Mandaluyong City**

# What if Filipinos topped Everest?

THE CRITICS OF DALE ABENOJAR, he who claims to have summited Mt. Everest ahead of other Filipinos, may be right or wrong. But one thing we should remember: we are all Filipinos and every time we argue or quarrel "internationally," we are exposing ourselves to the whole world.

Could it be that the so-called "*talangka* mentality" is the thing that motivates a lot of "climbers" to put down Abenojar?

Why not just wait for Abenojar to prove his claim? Just because those who claim to be the first Filipinos to reach Everest's peak were backed by powerful organizations doesn't mean Abenojar's feat was a fluke.

But what if Filipinos have conquered Everest? Has it made us a mighty, first-class people? According to Confucius, "Mighty is he who conquers himself."

I suspect that because of our poverty and other gargantuan problems, we are doing trivial things to prove to the world that we are somebody. We have been trying to establish or break "world records," like the longest row of "*inihaw*" (grilled fish). The fact is, we have the biggest national debt in this part of the world.

Together, let us conquer the corruption in government, let us pay our taxes, let us do good to every Filipino and to ourselves, too. The best "world record" that we can show to the world is for us to climb and lick the mountain of poverty and corruption hovering over us.

**—NES BARICANTE,**
**neselsie45@hotmail.com**

# Excuse for failing governance

FIFTEEN YEARS AFTER THE END of the Cold War, Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo sets aside an additional amount of P1 billion to finance an "all-out war against the communists." This, when the communists have ceased to be a problem in Southeast Asia—except in our country. Today, capitalists are queuing up to do business with communist countries—China and Vietnam. In fact, Ms Arroyo herself took her entire family, including the "*yaya*" of her grandchildren, to Beijing for the NorthRail contract negotiations. Why the double-faced stance?

The truth is, in the Philippine context, the communist insurgency—especially after being labeled as a terrorist movement—has become a convenient excuse for failing governance and a handy justification for international fundraising. The communist bogey comes into play every time tyranny rears its ugly head.

Isn't communism still a problem in our country because, while all our neighbors have become NICs (newly industrializing countries) under Ms Arroyo's rule, we have been left behind wallowing in mass poverty and social injustice?

While more than half of our people are hungry, we are generous with funds for bullets and military hardware. While billions are needed to create jobs and rev up production machines, we spend billions looking for crooks when, in fact, they're sharing our beds and berths. Instead of throwing our resources into serious anti-poverty programs—poverty being the only enemy we must wage a valid war with—we waste scarce resources on Cha-cha and counterproductive security measures. So what if street protesters want to go to Mendiola? Doesn't Malacafiang belong to the people anymore? After all, Ms Arroyo isn't there most of the time, and the elite Presidential Security Group is ever strong, manning the Palace gates.

Those who wield power and formulate policies—political as well as economic—should start reexamining and overhauling their mind-sets. Perception engineering, in which Ms Arroyo and her Palace cabal excel, cannot keep Ms Arroyo in power forever. Photo ops may be fine during an election campaign but after the contest, statesmanship should take over.

If the country does not move forward for the benefit of all the people, which is the case today, it will "explode" sooner or later—no matter what all the crooks, scoundrels and verbal magicians in the Palace do.

The current bloodbath in the countryside will only further fertilize the rebellion which is really rooted in mounting mass poverty and social injustice.

Bullets cannot kill a rebellion. Only a truly liberating governance can.

**—AMADO GAT INCIONG,**
**Unit 301 Union Square**
**Condominium, 145 15th Ave.,**
**Cubao, Quezon City**

# No World Cup hype in the Philippines

I WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE Amando Doronila for his spectacular article on football. ("Soccer is the sport of the underdog," PDI, 6/12/06) I hope our football leaders in the Philippines read it and get inspired by it. We rarely see any news about football in local newspapers, and this one hit the front page!

The football situation in this country is pathetic. The people who are supposed to promote the sport are themselves destroying each other. Who cares about who is the real Philippine Football Federation (PFF) president? What we need is exposure. We need the sympathy of the press, not to mention corporate support. The only time we read about football is when a guy accuses one football official or the other of being a fake and what not.

It's a pity that we cannot watch the current World Cup in Germany "live" right in our living rooms with our children. We have to go to an expensive open air café and pay P150 for a cup of capuccino, or to a girlie bar full of cigarette smoke, just to catch the action as it happens in Germany.

Who would like to watch a game the result of which you already know? The PFF and the National Capital Region Football Association (NCRFA) should have worked together to bring the games to every household in the Philippines "live." It's their duty to give all football-loving Filipinos—no matter how few they are compared to the rest of the world—a chance to enjoy the matches as they are played.

By the way, Doronila forgot to mention that Trinidad and Tobago were down to 10 men in most part of the second half of the game against Sweden, fighting to score and prevent the latter country from scoring.

We need more writers like Doronila who, even though he is not a sportswriter, writes about the greatest sports event on earth, just so the Filipinos may know.

Another thing, aren't the Middle East and Israel also in Asia? So it's not only Japan and South Korea representing Asia.

We Filipinos are similar to the Korean and Japanese in size and build. And compared to Trinidad and Tobago and most other African countries that are in the World Cup, we are much richer in natural resources.

When will we start seriously promoting football? If ordinary football fans cannot come to the games, why not bring the games to them? Organize games to be played on basketball courts, beaches, empty lots, or even school yards that are aplenty in the provinces. I know because I have seen this with my own eyes when I went with the Kasibulan youth games in Bicol and Batangas two years ago.

All that is needed is a coach, a football and players. But first, show our people what football is by making it available on TV and the sports page.

**—LUDWIG V. FUENTEBELLA,**
**former National Team**
**football player,**
**ludwigvf@yahoo.com**

# A more destructive position?

IT WAS AMUSING TO READ columnist Isagani Cruz's "Dangerous diversions." (PDI 6/17/06) The retired Supreme Court justice, erstwhile grammarian and more recently, a self-appointed sociological analyst, has precipitately passed judgment on entertainers as the main culprits for the sad state of our nation today.

He practically blamed the entire entertainment industry as the root cause of the country's return to the iniquitous days of the Marcos regime, for the survival of the tyrant's toadies. Boy, aren't entertainers that powerful!

He said principal figures of the entertainment industry were submissive and readily backed Ferdinand Marcos. They are still active today in their adjustable *(sic)* career.

Here's another example of his outlandish logic: Entertainment shows are vulgar, smutty, offensive, obnoxious, unwholesome. They fail to elevate the taste of the audience. Therefore, entertainers are responsible for the election of untalented, overambitious entertainers to high public positions.

Following Cruz's logic and at the risk of incurring the ire of my lawyer-friends, let me indict the entire legal profession, of which Cruz is a luminary:

There are a thousand more lawyers, judges and justices in this country than there are entertainers. And there are a hundred more of them in high government positions and seats of power, all of them elected by the uneducated. Cruz complains of an idiotized electorate, "The Great Unwashed." But it's the lawyers in the Comelec who do the "*dagdag-bawas*" and who determine the winners.

Who do you think make the laws but flout them the most? Who are the "hoodlums in robes"? Who misinterpret the Constitution, invent terms like "constructive resignation," regret that a death convict should not have been put to death after all, and investigate the citizenship of national artists? Who have run this country in the last six decades and brought this country to imminent perdition?

Cruz should know the answers.

I'm glad and proud to be an entertainer. I make a decent and honest living out of making people laugh or cry in amusement. Most lawyers in government only know how to make people cry in the real sense of the word.

**—CRIS VERTIDO,**
**entertainer,**
**crisvertido@gmail.com**

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INQUIRER Northern Luzon

Editor Jun Bandayrel
Bureau Chief Rolando B. Fernandez

# Law grad gives new meaning to 'Aeta'

By Tonette Orejas
*Clark Special Economic Zone*

WYDA COSME, 31, STANDS OUT FOR TWO pioneering feats among the Aeta of Mount Pinatubo. "She's the first law graduate in her tribe," said Salong Sunggod, director of the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) in Central Luzon.

Cosme is also the first Aeta working as a legal analyst for the Clark Development Corp., which runs the Clark Special Economic Zone, CDC records showed.

For the new frontiers she has opened up, Cosme has stayed humble.

In last week's interview, which pushed through after she spent her two-week leave planting palay at a cooperative farm in Botolan, Zambales, Cosme avoided the attention. "You might have gone to the wrong person. There are many Aeta leaders," she said.

But nobody else is like her.

By her own account, hers is a story of triumph over discrimination.

It also tells of her strong will to get an education at a most inauspicious time—the 1991 Pinatubo eruptions that destroyed the resources of their ancestral abode, displaced the tribe, and worsened their poverty.

In blazing new trails, Cosme provides the Aeta youth an inspiring model to emulate, Sunggod said.

Her being able to work at the CDC is a breakthrough, the basis on which the agency could test the reliability of others for employment there, the NCIP official said.

Those who came before Cosme were limited to jobs as instructors in jungle survival training, janitors, construction workers or house help during the heydays of the US military in Clark and Subic.

From the bases' perimeter, the Aeta scavenged trash or, more dangerously, gathered spent bullets to sell to junk shops.

"I only had faith in God and determination," Cosme said.

Her success is not even fraught with luck, she added. Actually, she benefited from the many efforts to make education accessible to the tribe.

## Parent educators

Cosme's village, Villar (old name: Ugek), which is 10 km from the volcano's crater, was the first tribal settlement in Central Luzon where American educator William Cousman established an elementary school in 1901, her late great granduncle, Jacinto Balintay, told the INQUIRER in 1999.

Aside from working as a research assistant to anthropologist Dr. Robert Fox, Balintay was among the tribe's first educators.

That same school was where Cosme's father, Roberto, learned to write, read and count. His enthusiasm for education got support from the American couple Fred and Virginia Pennoyer, who devoted 20 years of Protestant missionary work in Villar.

Roberto returned to Zambales with a degree in elementary education from the Guagua National Colleges (GNC) in Pampanga. He taught for 10 years at Kakilingan, an Aeta settlement in San Marcelino town, later moving on as community organizer for the World Vision International's education and livelihood programs among the Aeta of Zambales.

Cosme said that although her mother Milagros did not make it to high school because of the 20-km distance between Villar and her village Maguisguis, her love for education did not wane.

In between raising Cosme and her four other children, Milagros learned from Roberto and taught in adult literacy classes.

"My parents were both advocates of education," Cosme said.

What guided her through were their loads of advice. "You go to school not only to help yourself but to help your fellow Aeta," Roberto had told his eldest child when she was being prepared for high school.

"No matter what, you will have to finish college," said Milagros.

Her parents and relatives went out of their way to tap scholarship funds for Cosme. Her studies at the Sto. Niño High School in Botolan were financed by the Jaime V. Ongpin Foundation.

She finished the first year of her English course at the GNC by working as a maid. The second year was supported by Roberto's salary as administrative officer of the NCIP in Zambales.

Cosme's friends and classmates pitched in when money for tuition came late.

She was so desperate to stay in school that she tried being a scholar-athlete in the school's weightlifting team. She failed to make it for she was only four feet tall and the weights she carried were half her less than 100-kg frame.

Although her last two years at the GNC came with a study grant from the defunct Mount Pinatubo Commission, Roberto and Milagros took in loans when the government funds arrived late.

"We did not have farm animals to sell," Cosme recalled of those years.

She said it broke her heart when she learned that her family subsisted on *camote* (sweet potato) and scrimped for her schooling.

She finished law school in 2001 through the help of the Holy Trinity Church in Makati City and Jennifer Wallum, a member of the British Empire and founder of the Entrepreneur Volunteer Assistance Charity Foundation.

## Why a lawyer?

Cosme said the children at Loob-Bunga resettlement, where Villar residents transferred, inspired her to take up law.

"*Ate*, what should we do when a teacher treats us harshly?" she remembered the children asking her. She dished out advice, learning that in the process, the young ones found strength in them. Then, too, there was no lawyer in the tribe yet.

In 1995, she put good reasoning to correct an impression of her tribe.

Facing a panel selecting grantees for the Philippine-Japan Friendship Program, she bravely faced a question on why the Aeta had turned mendicants in post-Pinatubo eruption years.

"In the history of the Philippines, have you known us to be begging? No. It was the lowlanders who taught us to live on alms. And this time, it's a question of survival. Our abode was destroyed. We lost our resources for living," she had told the panel.

For that answer, she was one of the 20 Filipinos chosen to join a one-month study tour of Japan's six cities in 1996.

To this day, she still laughs about that interview. "I came wearing a blouse with a lot of stains and my hair was disheveled."

Discrimination has challenged and toughened her than put her down.

Like her father, she was degraded for her dark skin, she said. Among the taunts include being called "*taong bundok* (mountain dweller)."

Her first day at the GNC was sad.

"I went to the other building. When I entered the room, my classmates were laughing aloud. I sat and they were still laughing. One asked: '*Ba't ka napunta dito*' (How come you're here)? I just cried. I poured the pain by writing my feelings," she said.

She did well in class recitations and tried to excel in her studies.

Aside from the insulting remarks, Cosme said she got disbelieving stares from strangers. "On some occasions, I am mistaken for an Amerasian because I can speak English," she said.

To sort of boost their self-confidence, Cosme and her sisters, Erlyn Fe and Irwina, gave the word "Aeta" a new meaning. "A is for Alluring, E is for Exceptional, T is for Talented, and A is All of the Above," she said.

Irwina has a physical therapy degree, while Erlyn Fe is in college. Their two brothers are in high school and elementary.

While she has proven her worth in the workplace and got promoted from legal researcher to analyst, Cosme said she returned to her community to reestablish ties.

She had to do this, she said, because some began to view her as "different" from the rest or "too high" to be within their reach, given the education she has attained.

She organized the youth, and was elected to the tribal council.

With the Philippine Development Institute, she helped organize their family-based cooperative. She also helped the tribe forge friendships with other tribes, going to as far as Cotabato to do that. When visitors come to the village, she serves as interpreter for local leaders.

Her mother, who is a *mag-aanito* (healer and spirit guide), keeps her grounded on their culture, including in the belief in Apo Namalyari, the mountain deity.

"*Hindi ako kakaiba. Aeta pa rin ako* (I am no different. I am still an Aeta)," Cosme said.

At the CDC, "my being an Aeta is not an issue," she said, adding that she's appreciated for the quality of work she does. Portions of her salary go to sending a cousin and a nephew to school.

She plans to make a second try at the bar examinations to, hopefully, become a lawyer and to "serve the Aeta more."

**TRAILBLAZER.** Wyda Cosme (left) shows that an Aeta can make it in the modern world, using education as her passport to a better life for her and her tribe.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SAMA-SAMANG PAHAYAG NG MGA PILIPINO SA ESPAÑA

MAHAL NA PANGULONG GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO:

**KASAMA** po ninyo kami sa inyong hangarin na maisulong ang ating ekonomiya. Patuloy naming ipadadala sa Pilipinas ang bahagi ng aming kinikita upang makapag-aral ang aming mga anak at masuportahan ang pangangailangan ng aming mga mahal sa buhay.

**KASAMA** po ninyo kami sa inyong adhikain na mapaganda ang imahe ng ating bansa sa mata ng mga banyaga. Sisikapin naming ilarawan ang magagandang ugali at asal ng isang tunay na Pilipino.

**KASAMA** po ninyo kami sa inyong mga panalangin na nawa ay magkaroon ng isang maunlad, tahimik, malakas, at matatag na Republika ng Pilipinas.

Kasabay po nito, kaming inyong mga minamahal na kababayan dito sa España ay umaasa na **SASAMAHAN** din po ninyo kami sa aming pagnanais na sana ay maipagpatuloy at mapalakas ng ating pamahalaan ang serbisyong kanyang ibinibigay sa katulad naming mga Pilipino na naghahanapbuhay sa iba't-ibang bansa.

**MAHAL NA PANGULO, MABUHAY PO KAYO!**
**MABUHAY ANG BANSANG PILIPINAS!**

Nilagdaan ng mga Pilipino sa Madrid, España, ika-30 ng Junio, 2006.

ADVT.

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## Stop the war, Maguindanao folk cry

COTABATO CITY—"THEY ARE SUFFERING AND they want the fighting stopped," Ruby Sahali, social welfare secretary of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, said of the more than 4,000 families displaced by fighting between militiamen and Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) rebels in Maguindanao.

The evacuees came from the towns of Shariff Aguak, where the hostilities started last week, and from Mamasapano, Datu Piang, Datu Unsay, Datu Saudi, Ampatuan, Sultan sa Barongis and SK Pendatun towns, where it spread.

Sahali said most of the displaced families had received food packages from her office and from ARMM Gov. Zaldy Ampatuan.

"I know our assistance is not enough," she said. "We hope the conflict will be resolved very soon so they (evacuees) can return home."

Classes have been suspended, while farmers fear losing their crops as returning home was very risky.

Most of the refugees are housed in various evacuation sites.

Gen. Ramon Santos, chief of the government's ceasefire panel, said efforts were under way to separate the warring groups—Moro rebels and armed civilian volunteers, most of them supported by their mayors.

Santos said normalcy would only return if the MILF turned over two field commanders, Sajid Pakiladato and Ombra Kato, who were implicated in the June 23 bomb attack on Maguindanao Gov. Andal Ampatuan Sr.

"If the MILF hands them over, they will be subjected to investigation under the provisions of the ceasefire agreement," he said.

But Ghazali Jaafar, MILF vice chair for political affairs, said the government should first "conduct an impartial investigation" of the two MILF leaders.

"They must know first who really perpetrated the bombing," he said

The MILF leadership has declared that it remains committed to the ongoing peace initiative, despite the setback.

Santos, who earlier met with Ampatuan, said the governor wanted the fighting to end "because in the end, I as the governor, will still address the needs of the affected people, they be MILF or not because they are all my constituents."

Santos refused to say which group was at fault. "Our job is to separate the warring groups."

The two groups are still trading bullets and mortar bombs sporadically. Commuters in the national highway can still hear loud explosions from the Liguasan Marsh, site of the battle.

The MILF has declared a unilateral ceasefire and fighting has eased the past 48 hours.

A RESIDENT of Tapikan, Shariff Aguak, Maguindanao checks his belongings inside the compound of an Islamic school in Barangay Labo-labo where he and his family moved amid clashes in Maguindanao.
PDI PHOTO

Santos said the conflict has put the peace deal "to a test."

"This, somewhat, is a learning process for everyone," he said, adding that because of the clashes, they managed to identify the weakness in implementing an initial peace deal.

Even if the fighting has somehow eased, the evacuees refused to return to their homes. "We can't force them, they have nowhere to go to," Sahali said. "In the meantime, we are addressing their immediate needs."

Foreign and local relief agencies, like the Philippine National Red Cross, International Committee of the Red Cross and Oxfam, have started arriving at the refugee sites to ensure that the health situation will not deteriorate.

Mary Ann Arnado, secretary general of the Mindanao Peoples Caucus and deputy director of the Initiatives for International Dialogue, called on President Macapagal-Arroyo to "decisively and immediately put a stop to the war going on in Maguindanao."

"Stop the war, save the evacuees," Arnado said. "It's a serious threat if we are not able to address it and this would develop into a new war."

She called on the religious and civic communities to intervene.
*Edwin Fernandez, Jeoffrey Maitem and Dennis Jay Santos, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

ALBANO

## Burial day of Albano declared town holiday

ILAGAN, ISABELA—MAYOR Josemarie Diaz has declared July 6 a special nonworking holiday in this town to allow residents and officials to pay their last respects to slain Mayor Delfinito Albano.

Diaz, who assumed the mayoral post after Albano's murder in Quezon City on June 27, said Albano would be buried at the Ilagan public cemetery in Barangay Santo Tomas after a Mass at the St. Ferdinand parish on Thursday.

"The people of Ilagan [and other towns in Cagayan Valley] have been grieving over the sudden death of our beloved mayor, so the executive order was only proper," the mayor said.

Diaz said Albano was a "down-to-earth politician" who would always come to the aid of his constituents.

Albano, according to Diaz, was responsible for the development of Sta. Victoria Natural Park in Barangay Sta. Victoria, the rehabilitation of the Rizal and Bonifacio parks, the establishment of "environmental police" stations in the town's villages and the maintenance of peace and order in the capital town.

Under his term, Ilagan was thrice cited in the Gawad Pangulo sa Kapaligiran and was national finalist in the search for the cleanest and greenest town.

Police are not likely to solve the murder soon but said they are looking at various motives for the killing. *Villamor Visaya Jr., PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

## Pampanga court ruling replete with signs of 2004 poll fraud

**By Tonette Orejas**
*PDI Central Luzon Desk*

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—A REgional trial court's decision in the mayoral race in Sta. Ana, Pampanga, gave hints of election fraud for or against candidates for president, vice president and senators in the May 10, 2004 elections.

The decision, issued by Judge Carmelita Gutierrez-Fruelda on June 30, came four days after Vice President Noli de Castro and former Sen. Loren Legarda asked the Supreme Court to suspend the recount of the votes for vice president from Pampanga.

The clues to the cheating were given by witnesses for Dominador Dizon, the losing mayoral candidate who sought a recount of votes in 74 of the 123 precincts in Sta. Ana.

"Some ballots were written in capital letters for GMA (President Macapagal-Arroyo's initials) to identify the voters," the court said as it quoted the testimony of Aurea Galingan.

The decision did not explain what that actually indicated.

But a source in the Commission on Elections surmised that either the voters whose votes were bought or committed were instructed to write the initials or the ballots were prepared ahead of election day and inserted in ballot boxes.

Galingan, 38, was one of the revisors tapped by Dizon in his election protest against Mayor Francisco Gaddi. Dizon presented her in the trial as one of his 10 witnesses.

ALANAH TORRALBA/PDI PHOTO

PROTESTERS carry mock images of former elections commissioner Virgilio Garcillano, whose alleged involvement in election cheating for Ms Arroyo started a crisis that continues to this day.

Galingan told the court that she had participated as a revisor in more than 20 electoral protests in the House of Representatives.

A revisor examines the questioned ballots and notes irregularities in these. The findings are submitted in a report to the parties and to the court.

In this case, the court asked the National Bureau of Investigation to help establish the truth in the findings.

Galingan questioned more than 1,400 ballots in the Sta. Ana mayoral race. Among the various observations she made was "a number of ballots were written by one person because they had similar handwritings; some ballots were written by two different persons."

Another witness, Rhoda Flores, assistant chief of the National Bureau of Investigation's questioned documents division, said of the 921 contested ballots, at least two were "written by one person and the same examination exclud(ed) Gloria Macapagal; Legarda; Jaworski; Robert; Biazon, Rodolfo; Labung (a local candidate)."

The decision said analysis done by the NBI in Manila showed that in at least 496 official ballots, sets of two or more in that batch were written by one person.

At least 404 more official ballots were done by only one person while 21 others were written by two different persons.

In the decision, a tally of the questioned ballots did not specify the names of national and local candidates who benefited from the ballots.

In the "marked ballots" (ballots having common marks like dots or lines), at least four had the name of Sen. Manuel "Lito" Lapid written several times on the spaces allotted for the names of senators.

The court voided a total 613 votes and deducted these from Gaddi.

No part in the decision mentioned who or what camp made the contested ballots.

"The only issue that should be resolved by the court is the appreciation of votes," Fruelda said in the decision.

The court declared Gaddi winner in the 2004 mayoral election after he garnered 7,734 votes, giving him a margin of 142 over Dizon's 7,592 votes.

THE POSH Camp John Hay Manor Hotel, where two bodies were found in Suite 103. Crime investigators said it was an apparent suicide, but one of the victims' family said they suspect foul play.
TOOTS SOBERANO/PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU

## Kin cry foul play on death of 2 in Baguio City hotel

MINALIN, PAMPANGA—RELATIVES OF A woman, who was found dead with her partner in a room at the posh Manor Hotel in Camp John Hay in Baguio City on Saturday, suspected foul play in the death of the couple.

Frankie Awitan, the grandfather of the victim, Michelle Iraham, 18, ruled out that Charlie Chua killed the woman and then shot himself.

Awitan said the relationship of Iraham and Chua lasted two years. He said Chua, 41, had bought Iraham a farm lot in Bulacan.

"They treated each other well and Charlie loved her so much," he added.

Standing next to Iraham's coffin, Awitan pointed to the swelling right eye of his granddaughter.

"She also had bruises on her arms and legs. She was probably tied before she was killed," he said.

Awitan aired suspicion that a Baguio policeman was made a party to an "attempt to cover up."

"That policeman said Michelle died from a car accident, which I learned later to be false," he said.

Alona Iraham, the victim's aunt, said she was not satisfied with police investigation.

"We were not shown any photo of the crime scene or the text message that I know Charlie sent to Michelle to say 'I love you.' The police did not tell us the full story. We learned from our friends in Baguio that the investigation did not take a long time. I found that strange," Alona told the INQUIRER by phone.

Awitan appealed to the police to arrest the killers. "Those responsible should answer to the law."

Iraham, a perennial queen in this town's May festival, worked as a waitress at Stardust bar, her relatives in Barangay San Isidro here said.
*Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk, and Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

# Tribe leaders sue mayor for misuse of ₱30.7M

BAYOMBONG, NUEVA VIZCAYA—Leaders of the Bugkalot tribe in Alfonso Castañeda town have filed criminal charges against their mayor for alleged misuse of their villages' shares from the P250-million tax paid by owners of a hydroelectric facility there.

Village chairs of Pelaway, Abuyo, Cawayan and Lipuga alleged that Mayor Alfredo Castillo Jr. misused about P30.7 million of their shares in real property tax paid last year by California Energy (CE)-Casecnan, an American firm.

CE Casecnan owns the Casecnan Multi-Purpose Power and Irrigation Project (CMIPP), an independent power producer that was compelled to pay real property taxes since it started operations in 2001.

The case against Castillo was filed at the regional trial court here on June 28.

The INQUIRER tried but failed to reach the mayor for comment on Tuesday. In an earlier interview, he had denied the allegations.

Records from the provincial treasurer's office showed that Pelaway, which hosts the CMIPP's impounding weirs, received P20.3 million as its tax share. Abuyo, which covers almost the entire length of the 26-km Casecnan tunnel, got P10.4 million.

Lipuga and Cawayan were also given shares as goodwill. Their chiefs agreed that the villages were also part of the CMIPP's "primary impact zone."

The municipal government also received P110.6 million representing 40 percent of the tax payment.

Village chairs Potado Gabogen of Pelaway, Tomas Cawad of Cawayan, Engagen Pasigian of Lipuga and Milton Suaking of Abuyo accused Castillo and Emelita Bales, whom they claimed to be a contractor identified with the mayor, of manipulating them to get the proceeds of their shares in the real property tax.

They said that on Aug. 2, 2005, inside the Neptune Hotel in Solano town, Castillo told them to issue blank checks supposedly to facilitate the start of projects in their barangays. They said they met hours after the provincial treasury office released the funds.

"The mayor told each of us to issue about five or six blank checks, without knowing the exact amount that would be charged against it or the purpose for which we were issuing," the complainants said in a sworn statement.

They said they followed Castillo's order because they trusted him, and that they wanted to immediately start their projects.

"We waited for the projects to come, which Mayor Castillo promised to implement through Emelita Bales but we have not seen the supposed contractor, and no project has ever been started. Our money is gone," they said.

They soon discovered that two checks for P3.2 million each were issued to one Silvino Uera, supposedly the mayor's aide and driver.

In an interview made before the cases were filed last week, Castillo said he had nothing to do with the loss of the villages' shares.

"The recognized signatories of the checks are the barangay captain and the treasurer. It is absurd to believe that I dictated upon them to sign the checks. I'm sure they are old enough to decide on their own," he said.

*Melvin Gascon, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

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PDI PHOTO

**EX-FIRST LADY Imelda Marcos with the Buddha statuette.**

# Fight over Buddha replica puzzles judge

**By Delmar Cariño**
*PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

BAGUIO CITY—IF THE BRASS-PLATED Buddha statuette in the custody of a court here is a replica, why are several claimants dead-serious in bringing it home?

This question has puzzled Judge Fernando Vil Pamintuan as he tries to resolve the final destination of the image that had been in the court's safe for 35 years.

Rogelio Roxas, a locksmith-turned-treasure hunter, made national headlines in 1971 when he accused then President Ferdinand Marcos of forcibly taking from him a Golden Buddha that he found in a tunnel near a hospital here.

He said the late strongman later submitted a fake Buddha to the court.

The statuette has become the object of a tug-of-war between claimants who, to Pamintuan's amazement, have insisted that it was fake yet fight over it.

Henry and Gervic Roxas, Rogelio's sons, and Albert Umali, president of the Treasure Hunters Association of the Philippines Inc., appeared before Pamintuan in a recent hearing to claim the statuette.

Jose Roxas, Rogelio's eldest brother who is now based in Olongapo City, and the Office of the Solicitor General, failed to attend the hearing. The records showed that they, too, had staked claims to the statuette.

Henry Roxas said his claim was buoyed by a ruling issued last week by the US District Court of Hawaii that ordered the release of partial compensation of $2,000 each to about 7,500 victims of human rights abuses under the Marcos regime.

"Our family is also a human rights victim," he said.

During the hearing, Pamintuan raised several suggestions to help unlock the Golden-Buddha mystery, but the claimants ignored it.

"Are you not interested to know what this statuette is really made of?" he asked. "Is there something inside?"

Lawyer Edgar Avila, counsel for the Roxas heirs, saw no need for the move since, he said, the statuette was coated with brass, an observation supported by Umali.

Later, Pamintuan said: "Why don't we just donate this to the museum? It has become a piece of history."

The claimants did not react to the suggestion.

Pamintuan then raised the possibility of returning the statuette to the soldiers who submitted it to the court upon orders of then Court of First Instance Judge Pio Marcos.

Still, the claimants did not react. Instead, they reiterated their position that it was time that the Buddha be released to its "rightful owner."

## ROUNDUP

### Troops repel NPA attack

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—About 40 heavily armed New People's Army rebels attacked a Philippine Army detachment in Carranglan, Nueva Ecija, on Sunday, but withdrew after two hours. Lt. Col. Joselito Kakilala, commander of the Army's 48th Infantry Battalion, also said the rebels took with them their two wounded companions, including the head of the Nueva Ecija Party Committee's Guerrilla Front 1. The unit's M-60 gunner was wounded in the clash. Although the detachment in Barangay Burgos, Carranglan, was undermanned, station commander T/Sgt. Pedro Tumapang and his 17 soldiers repulsed the attack. He reported no death or casualty among the soldiers. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*

### Lightning kills cell phone user

LUCENA CITY—The village chief of San Vicente, Tagkawayan, Quezon died after lightning struck him as he used his mobile phone Monday. Tagkawayan police investigator SPO1 Justino Legaspi said Reynaldo Magpantay was with a municipal agrarian reform officer surveying a portion of the village when lightning struck the victim as he was talking to someone in his mobile phone. Magpantay died on the spot, according to police. A recent case study by the British Medical Journal said lightning might pose a threat to people using mobile phones outside during a thunderstorm. *Delfin Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

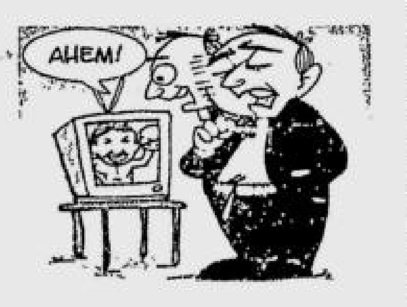
### Korean missionary drowns

CAMP VICENTE LIM, Laguna—A 21-year-old Korean missionary drowned while swimming with other members of a Born Again Christian group in a beach resort in Calapan City last week. Police said Jun Oh Lim, a pastor from Daegu, South Korea, arrived in the city on Thursday and went swimming the next day with other Korean and Filipino members of their church at the Donny Land Beach Resort. At around 5 p.m., the victim's companions heard him calling for help. He apparently reached a deep portion of the swimming area and was not able to return to shore. Members of the Public Safety Department of the city government tried but failed to find the Korean's body until around 6 a.m. on Saturday. *Marlon Ramos, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

### More natural disasters seen

DAVAO CITY—Officials in Southern Mindanao said they were expecting more natural disasters to occur this year because of heavy rains. Gerry Pedrico of the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa), said the region would also experience hailstorms. Carmelito Lupo, regional director of the Office of Civil Defense (OCD), said floods and landslides should be expected. For the first six months, the OCD recorded seven major disasters in the region with at least four deaths and five injuries. Estimated damage was P68.7 million. Last year, 29 people were killed in landslides and floods in Davao del Sur, Davao Oriental, Davao del Norte and Compostela Valley. *Judy Quiros, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

### Pacquiao win 'no panacea'



BACOLOD CITY—A Church leader here said President Macapagal-Arroyo should not use the unity and jubilation of the Filipino people over the victory of boxing hero Manny Pacquiao to gloss over the people's dissatisfaction with the way she ran the government. Msgr. Victorino Rivas, vicar general of the Diocese of Bacolod, was reacting to the President's statement on Monday that as the entire nation stood still for the Pacquiao fight, she could not help "but dream that one day, we would see the same passion in the hearts of our leaders and all Filipinos in supporting a common vision of the future." *Carla Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau*

### Town mourns mayor's death

BACOLOD CITY—Hinobaan town, 199.9 km south of here, is in mourning after its mayor died of lung cancer on Monday. Mayor Francisco Rivas Bilbao, 72, died of respiratory failure due to lung cancer at 4:50 a.m., less than a day after he was brought to the hospital. According to his physician John Ledesma, the mayor was also diagnosed with cirrhosis of the liver. Bilbao had wanted to watch the fight between Filipino boxing icon Manny Pacquiao and Mexican challenger Oscar Larios on Sunday, but his wife Ma. Teresa had to take him to the Riverside Medical Center here because he was not feeling well, said his brother Ernesto Bilbao. In his hospital room, Bilbao watched the fight after which he went to sleep and gradually slipped away very peacefully, Ernesto said. *Carla Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau*

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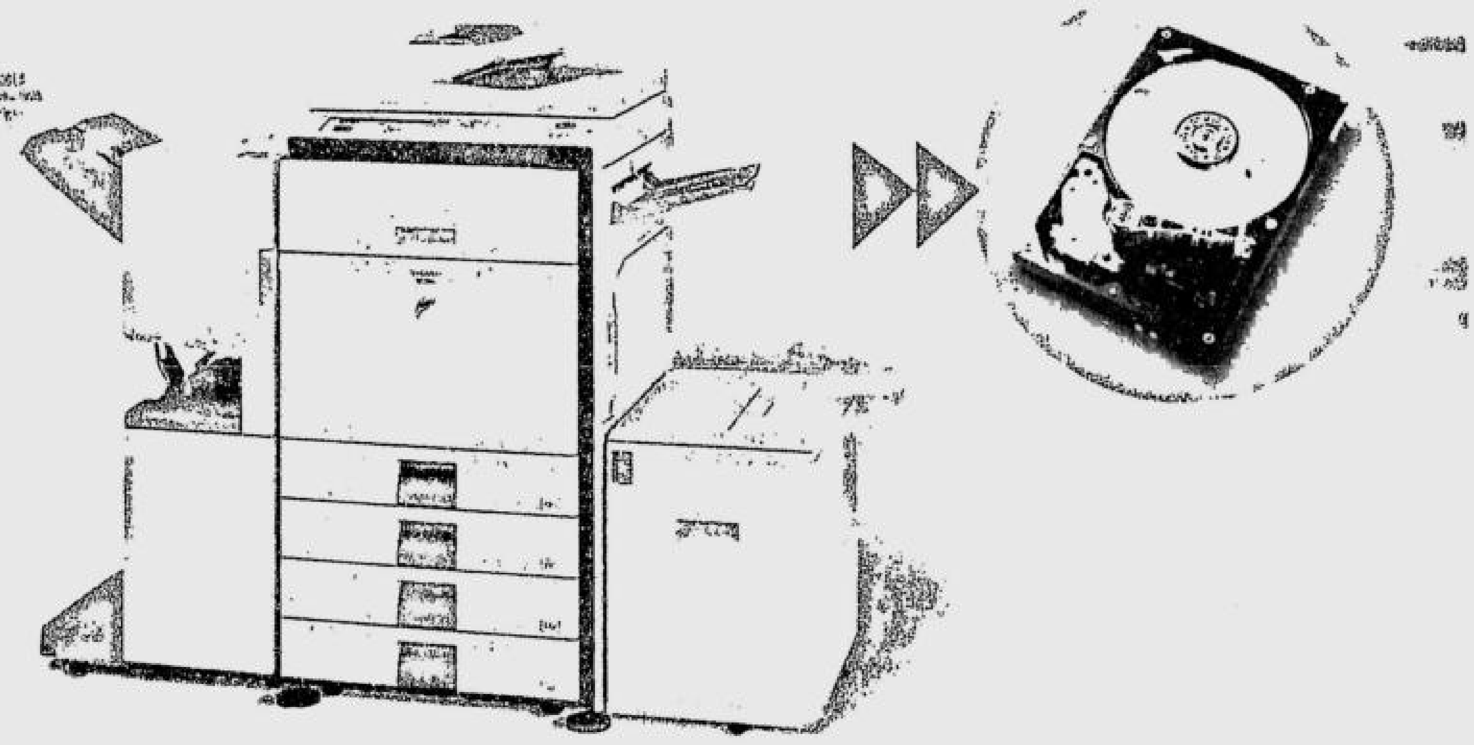

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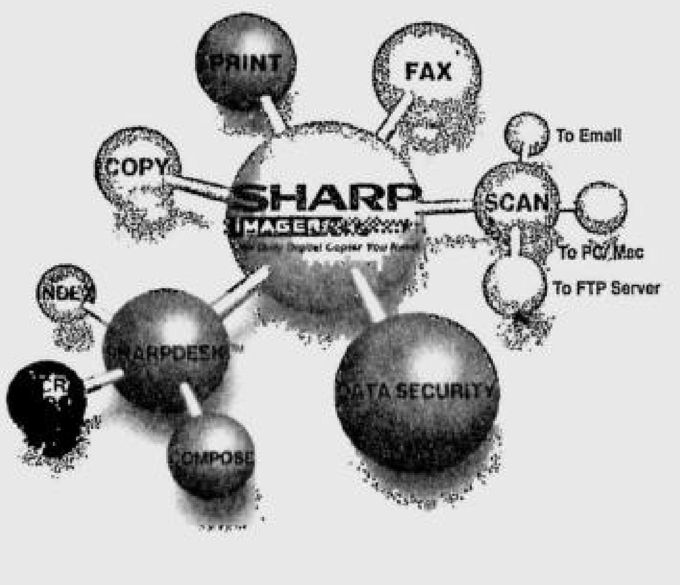

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# Palace eases up on CBCP

**By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.**

MALACAÑANG YESTERDAY SOFTENED ITS criticisms on the Church's meddling in the affairs of the state ahead of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines plenary meeting this week.

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said in a briefing: "The involvement of one bishop in an impeachment complaint does not speak for the Church and we take this issue as an isolated case. It does not in the least affect the overall good relations of the clergy and the government in all areas of social and spiritual concerns."

Caloocan Bishop Deogracias Iñiguez filed one of the four impeachment complaints filed last week in the House of Representatives against the President.

Last Monday, Bunye disputed CBCP head Archbishop Angel Lagdameo's claim that the Church leaders could actively participate in politics if "moral and gospel values are at stake."

Bunye claimed that "the charges raised on impeachment are not morality issues but plain and simple political harassment leveled against the highest office in the land."

The presidential spokesperson was more contrite in his latest statement as he claimed that the "Church and the government are united in pushing for good governance and addressing poverty and we are continuously banking on our partnership in pursuing political and economic reforms toward a better future."

**GETTING A KICK** out of soccer, children in Zamboanga run around with balls, not guns. REUTERS

# Soccer scores for peace in Zambo

ZAMBOANGA CITY—MARK KAHID PUNCHED his fists in the air and gave a victory roar as his team scored the winning goal in a friendly soccer match here.

A die-hard fan of Brazil's Ronaldo, Kahid and nearly 100 other children from eight schools in Zamboanga City tasted the same excitement people are feeling about the 2006 World Cup in Germany.

"Someday, I want many people to see me on television playing at the World Cup or in any of the European premier leagues," said Kahid, 11, soaked in sweat after a 20-minute game of seven per side.

For nearly 40 years, this part of the country has been the front for insurgencies by communist guerrillas and Muslim separatist rebels—conflicts that have killed more than 160,000 people and stunted Mindanao's growth.

A German nongovernment organization has begun helping children in conflict areas reach not only their dreams but plant the seed of religious and ideological tolerance to promote peace.

## Fighting outside

"They may be fighting outside but here we bring them together to play together," said Trini Magbitang, a consultant for the Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) group.

"We really have to start when they're still young. It would be difficult to talk peace when they're old and there's so much hatred in their hearts."

Peter Keller, GTZ's Manila-based senior adviser, said he hoped the World Cup could spark greater interest in soccer in the Philippines, where it is seen as an exclusive game for the elite and pales in popularity against basketball, badminton and boxing.

"We're just using football as a vehicle to bring our message of peace," said Keller, an amateur soccer player, adding Germany had committed at least P3 million for the 12-month sports for peace program.

During the weekend soccer clinic, eight teams of boys and girls played more than a dozen matches between lectures on sportsmanship and understanding religious and cultural beliefs.

"Like a tree, peace-building does not grow overnight. You need to water and nurture it patiently," Magbitang said as she prepared snacks of fruit juice and cheese sandwiches.

## Balls, not guns

Linda Schaefer, a GTZ consultant, said the sports program's focus was on children coming from different social, economic, cultural and religious backgrounds because "we want to see them running around with balls, not guns."

Magbitang said sports has been an effective tool in promoting friendship, telling of an incident when troops and Muslim rebels briefly stopped fighting after leaders of the opposing forces learned they were former soccer team mates in high school.

"The program is very promising," she said. "There was a lot of enthusiasm among the children, most of them coming very early to the stadium and staying under the heat of the sun all day."

Dayanara Torres, a sixth grader, said she felt bad Portugal had knocked out England, her favorite team in the World Cup.

"I love this game. I come from a soccer family, so I played with a ball before I got my first doll," she said. "I still love David Beckham but I want Germany to win this time."

Ridzma Mohammad, an 11-year-old from one of the city's largest slum areas, was delighted to be in the tournament despite her team's string of losses.

"It's my first time," she said while resting after a 7-0 defeat. "It's not the winning that's important but how we played the game. There'll be another chance, another time."

*Reuters*

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# 5 suspects in car rental swindle fall

## Only 6 out of 63 cars hired by syndicate recovered by TMG

FIVE suspected members of a car theft syndicate which took out 63 vehicles worth P35 million from a car rental firm were presented to media yesterday by National Bureau of Investigation acting director Nestor Mantaring (right, seated). RAFFY LERMA

By Margaux C. Ortiz

FIVE SUSPECTED MEMBERS of a syndicate that defrauded a car rental firm of P35 million worth of vehicles were arrested in an entrapment operation in Parañaque City last Friday.

Myla Marfal, Gilbert Mungcal, Jonathan Tolentino, all of Sta. Ana, Manila; Ronnie Javier, of Apalit, Pampanga and Renzon Santos of Calumpit, Bulacan, now face syndicated estafa charges in the Pasay City Prosecutor's Office, according to National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) acting director Nestor Mantaring.

"No bail has been recommended for the suspects who failed to account for 63 cars owned by the HNA Rent-A-Car based in Pasay City," Mantaring said in a press conference yesterday where the five were presented to the media.

The NBI has also launched a manhunt for five others, including Marfal's mother Evelyn Gallego, Ramil Bayan, Arnold Agravante, Lou Charles Estrada and Agnes Pangan.

Some of the car models allegedly stolen by the group included Toyota Vios, Nissan Escapade, Isuzu Sportivo, Nissan Urvan, Toyota Fortuner and Ford Everest.

5 SUSPECTS/ A20

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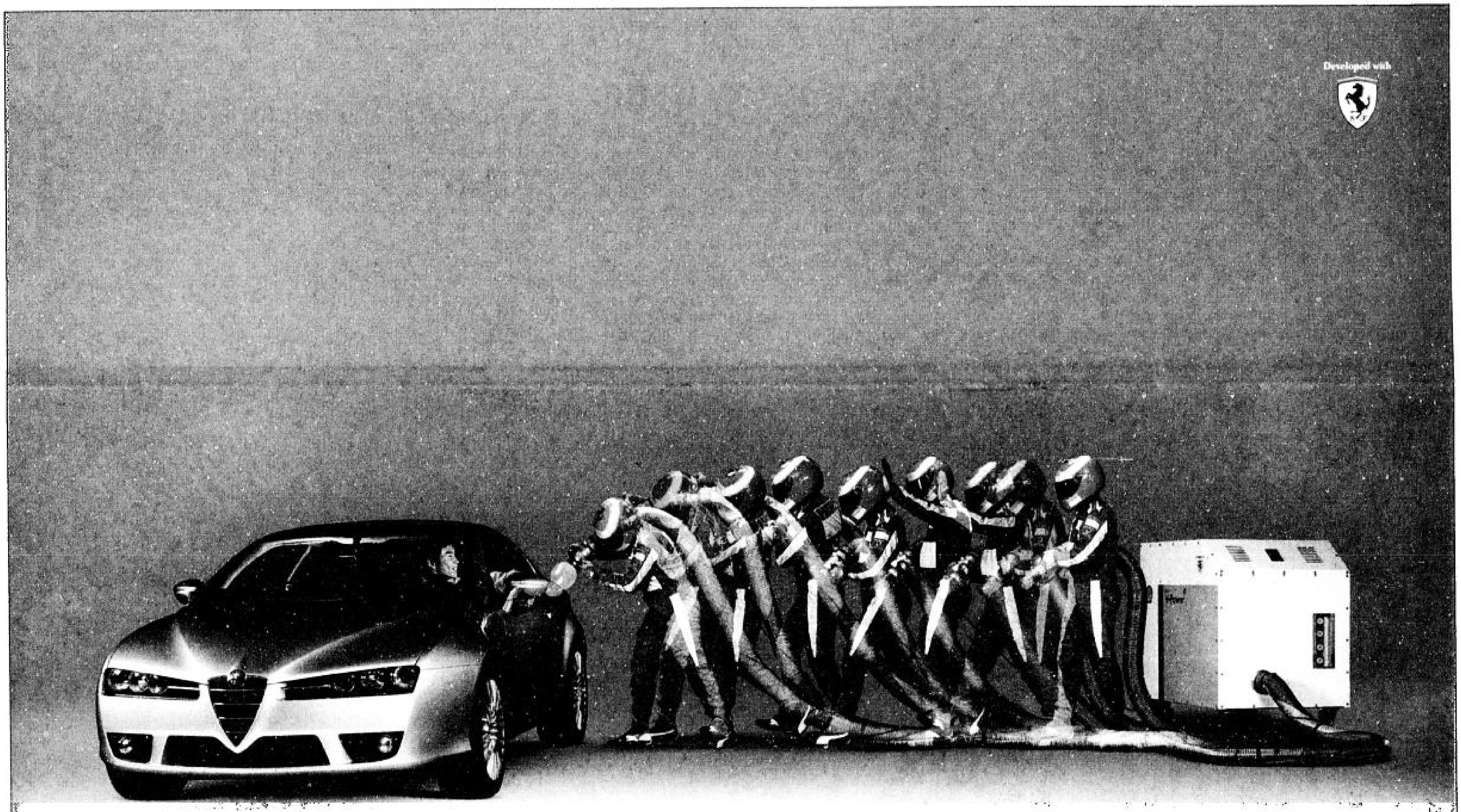

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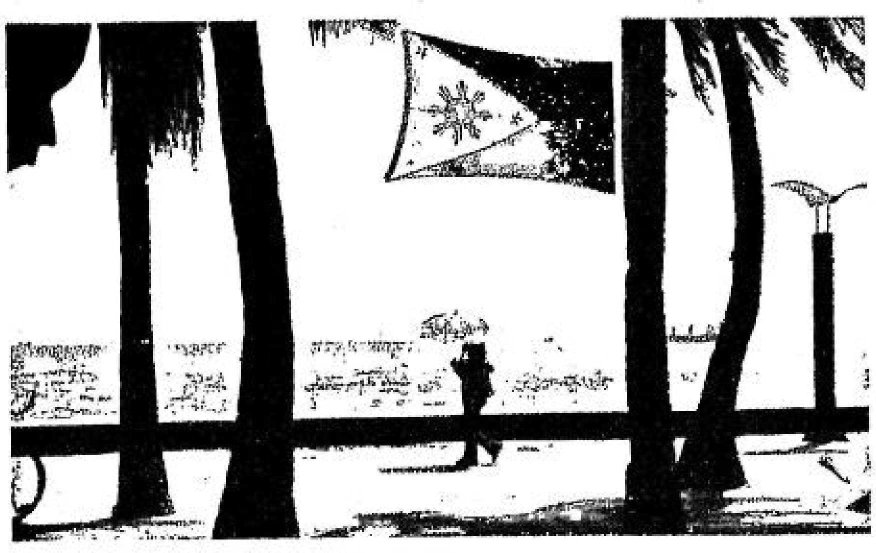
# New Marikina gym to train future boxing champs



**STROLLING BY THE BAY**
A woman walks past a Philippine flag along Roxas Boulevard, with an umbrella to shield her from the sun. It poured yesterday morning but the sun came out later in the day even as typhoon "Ester" threatened to bring more rains in the next days. EDWIN BACASMAS

**By Tina G. Santos**

A STATE-OF-THE ART BOXING GYMNASium will soon rise at the Boys Town Complex in Marikina City where future world-class boxers handpicked by the Manila government would undergo training.

"The city government is embarking on an ambitious program to develop future Filipino world boxing champions like Manny Pacquiao," said Presidential Assistant on Youth and Sports Arnold Atienza.

Atienza is also the chair of the sports council of the Manila government which runs the Boys Town Complex in Marikina.

According to him, the boxing "scholars" will be chosen from street children or those who come from poor families in Manila.

"We will select poor but deserving prospective boxers in the city," he added. "They will not only be trained to be world-class fighters but will also be sent to school."

Pacquiao has promised to help the Manila government conduct a free clinic for aspiring young boxers to produce a stable of "future boxing champs."

"I would like to serve as an inspiration to others and at the same time encourage people, especially the youth, to engage in sports. It is also a way to help them stay away from vices and instill in them values like sportsmanship and discipline," the boxing icon said.

He added that he gladly accepted Mayor Lito Atienza's invitation to help the city's sports program as his way of giving back to Manila where he started training as a boxer in a gym in the Sampaloc area.

"We are very fortunate to have him (Pacquiao) in our program. With his talent and experiences, plus his good sportsmanship, we are sure to develop well-rounded athletes," Atienza said.

# Construction jobs for Pasay residents

**By Jocelyn R. Uy**

UNEMPLOYED RESIDENTS OF Pasay City now have a better chance of finding work after councilors approved an ordinance requiring all construction firms in the city to give priority to residents when hiring workers.

According to the ordinance, 70 percent of the company's total workforce should be residents of the city.

"The work classification is not limited to positions like masons, carpenters, welders, electricians, plumbers, steel men, tinsmith, aircon technicians and the like ... whether permanent, contractual or casual," said the ordinance introduced by Vice Mayor Antonino Calixto.

Councilors said they passed the law in response to the growing problem of unemployment in Pasay.

# 5 linked to container van hijack nabbed

**By Luige A. del Puerto**

POLICE ARRESTED YESTERDAY FIVE Chinese men believed to be big-time financiers of hijacking operations in Metro Manila and Luzon.

The five suspects were caught as they were unloading over 1,000 cases of canned sardines from a 20-foot container van in a warehouse in Angeles City, the police said in a statement.

The Traffic Management Group identified those arrested as Joseph Lu, 26; Victor Ty, 26; Jacky Tan, 38; Jinding Shi, 45; and Won Wan Pa, 75.

The cargo was supposed to have been delivered to Pasig City, but the truck carrying the load disappeared while parked on C-3 Road in Dagat-Dagatan, Malabon City on July 3, police said.

The truck's disappearance was reported by Armando Ramos, owner of the San Roque Transport Services, to Supt. James Cristobal, chief of the TMG's anti-hijacking coordinating center. At 2 a.m. yesterday, policemen spotted the truck in Sta. Rita, Bulacan headed toward the toll gate near the Angeles City, Pampanga exit. Two cars were behind the vehicle, police said. Cristobal ordered his men to follow the cars, which stopped at a warehouse on Kalayaan Street in Barangay Lourdes, North West, Angeles City.

"The team noticed that the cargo was being unloaded from the van by five men," the TMG said.

## DID YOU KNOW

THE COUNTRY'S ONLY MECHANICAL bell tower, the oldest in Asia, can be found on the University of the Philippines campus in Diliman, Quezon City. Inaugurated on Aug. 1, 1952, the UP Carillon boasts of 46 Holland-made bronze bells housed in a 130-foot tower. The bells, played using a wooden keyboard, often serenaded the whole campus with the university hymn and other popular songs.

As early as 1940, National Artist for Architecture Juan F. Nakpil, UP Music Conservatory director Ramon Tapales and then UP President Bienvenido Gonzales had dreamt about building a carillon. In 1948, the University of the Philippines Alumni Association (UPAA) decided to raise funds to build a bell tower. The UP Carillon was finished after three years. The UPAA has embarked on a P20 million project to restore the deteriorating university landmark in time for the UP centenary in 2008. *Mel Lawrence de Guzman, PDI Research*

# 5 suspects ...

From page A19

An investigation conducted by the Interpol Division headed by lawyer Claro de Castro Jr. showed that Marfal first contacted HNA Rent-A-Car last May.

De Castro said that from May 24 to June 26, Marfal rented several vehicles every week, paid the initial fees and requested that the vehicles be delivered to her Sta. Ana home.

The syndicate then took the cars to Bulacan where they mortgaged or sold the cars for P100,000 to P200,000 using fake documents.

Mancilla, however, asked the NBI for help when he learned that six cars Marfal had rented from him were seized by policemen from one of the suspects.

# PNU regents meet to tackle thorny prexy issue

**By Tina G. Santos**

THE BOARD OF REGENTS (BOR) OF the state-run Philippine Normal University (PNU) will meet today to discuss the issues raised by faculty members and students opposed to the appointment of lawyer Lutgardo Barbo as university president.

The protesters, who have been holding a vigil on the PNU campus since last night, claimed that Barbo had failed to meet even some of the minimum standards set for the post such as a doctorate degree or administrative experience in teacher education or a related field.

They added that the lawyer should not have been included in the list of three final candidates because he had ranked last among the five bets for the post.

Barbo, however, insisted that he had met the minimum qualifications required for the post. He added that those opposed to his appointment were rooting for another candidate and were disappointed when he was chosen.

Prof. Felice Yeban of the Department of Social Sciences, said their protest was not a personal attack on Barbo.

"We're not against him as a person but we're protesting the process by which he was elected," she explained.

The protesters said they just wanted to safeguard the university's reputation as the country's premier teacher training institution.

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## WORLDBRIEFS

### Spain train mishap

VALENCIA—Forty-one people were killed and 39 others hurt when a metro train derailed in a tunnel in the eastern Spanish city of Valencia Monday as pilgrims gathered ahead of a papal visit, officials said. An interior ministry spokesperson said any terrorist link had been "completely ruled out," telling AFP: "Everything indicates that it was an accident, that the train derailed and was hurled against the walls of a tunnel." Regional transport chief Jose Ramon Garcia Anton warned that speculation about the cause of the crash would be premature until the train's black box recording was found. The same train line was the scene of a crash last September which left 35 people injured. The Valencia metro opened in 1988. *AFP*

### Discovery launch set

CAPE CANAVERAL—NASA has decided to launch Discovery Tuesday despite the discovery of a crack in the insulating foam on the space shuttle's external fuel tank, a spokesperson said late Monday. "We are going tomorrow," NASA spokesperson Lisa Malone told reporters at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Florida. Malone gave no further details, but top NASA officials were scheduled to hold a news conference later Monday. Officials earlier expressed confidence that the 2:38 p.m. launch Tuesday would take place after inspectors found the 12.5 cm crack overnight. Launch preparations had continued as planned while NASA officials analyzed the fissure. *AFP*

### Ex-US soldier charged

WASHINGTON—Prosecutors charged a US Iraq war veteran Monday with raping and murdering an Iraqi woman, after gunning down three members of her family, including a 5-year-old girl. The Justice Department said Steven Green, 21, a former private with the US Army's storied 101st Airborne Division, could face the death penalty if convicted over the latest alleged atrocities to taint the image of US soldiers in Iraq. Green, formerly stationed in Fort Campbell, Kentucky, was arrested Friday in the southern state of North Carolina for his alleged involvement in the deaths near Mahmudiyah, south of Baghdad, the statement said. Green was honorably discharged from the army this year with a "personality disorder." *AFP*

### Arms sale to Pakistan

WASHINGTON—The Bush Administration said on Monday that it planned to sell Pakistan up to 36 advanced F-16 fighter jets built by Lockheed Martin Corp. in a weapons package that could be worth more than $5 billion. The proposed sale of 18 new "Fighting Falcon" fighters with an option for 18 more demonstrates the United States' commitment to a long-term relationship with Pakistan, White House spokesperson Tony Snow told reporters. The new F-16 C/D Block 50/52 aircraft would be used for close air support in the US-declared global war on terrorism, among other things, the Pentagon's Defense Security Cooperation Agency said in a notice to Congress. *Reuters*

# Bin Laden accuses Iraq Shiites of genocide

PARIS—AL-QAIDA LEADER OSAMA bin Laden accused Iraqi Shiites of waging "genocide" against Sunnis and warned of retaliation, according to a new audiotape posted on the Internet.

The message, the second in as many days purportedly from the Western world's most wanted man, came as yet another sectarian car bombing shook Baghdad, killing 66 people.

The fact that bin Laden is releasing more Internet messages—five so far this year—suggests that he is buoyed by the continuation of the anti-US insurgency in Iraq, despite the killing of Al-Qaida's frontman there and by the victory of Islamist forces in part of Somalia, analysts said Sunday.

The speaker in the audio message, posted on Saturday, warned against deploying international forces in lawless Somalia and expressed backing for Islamist forces there.

The voice said Iraqi Sunnis, dominant under the ousted regime of Saddam Hussein, were being subjected to "a campaign of genocide at the hands of the gangs of grudge and treachery," a reference to Shiites.

The speaker warned that Iraqi Shiites could therefore expect retribution. *AFP*

# Israel tells Hamas: Sky will fall on you

GAZA—ISRAEL WARNED THE GOVERNING Hamas group that the "sky will fall on them" after a deadline set by Gaza militants for the Jewish state to free prisoners in exchange for a captured soldier expired on Tuesday.

Three Palestinian factions in the Gaza Strip, among them the Hamas armed wing, had given Israel until 6 a.m. (0300 GMT), saying it must respond by then if it valued the life of Corporal Gilad Shalit, 19.

Israel reiterated that it would not negotiate with the militants after the deadline passed, and the Maariv newspaper reported that the government gave the army a green light to launch a deeper incursion into northern Gaza.

Israel appeared to be holding back a major escalation after the United States and other Western powers urged restraint.

The smallest of the three militant groups, the previously unknown Islamic Army, said there would be no further information on Shalit, who was seized in a cross-border raid on June 25, and sent conflicting signals about his fate.

"Whether he will be killed or not killed, we will not disclose any information about the fate of the soldier. Discussion is closed," said spokesperson Abu al-Muthana.

But he later said: "We do not kill captives. Our Islam requires that we treat captives well and fairly." He declined to say whether Shalit was alive or dead.

Rejecting any deal, Israel has launched its first offensive in Gaza since withdrawing last year and massed troops and armour for a possible expansion of the ground operation.

Palestinian security sources said Israel had increased the number of armored vehicles on the northern edge of the strip.

Overnight, an Israeli air strike in northern Gaza killed one militant and wounded two. Israel said they were planting bombs.

In Gaza City, Israel fired a missile at the Islamic University, a Hamas stronghold. The army said it had attacked a building used by Hamas to plan attacks.

Israel has also hinted it could assassinate leaders of Hamas, whose government is under an international aid embargo, if Shalit is not freed.

"Hamas well understands the uncompromising message of the Israeli government, that the sky will fall on them if they harm Gilad Shalit," Interior Minister Roni Bar-On told Israel Radio.

"We will respond in a way the Palestinians haven't yet seen if, heaven forbid, they carry out their threat." Before the deadline passed, Prime Minister Ehud Olmert had already decided to continue the offensive, Israel Radio said.

Israel resumed artillery fire against northern Gaza after militants fired homemade rockets at the Jewish state.

The groups holding Shalit have demanded Israel free 1,000 prisoners. Unless the demands were met, the factions said, "the enemy will bear full responsibility for future consequences."

Mediation led by Egypt has so far failed to produce results.

Hamas, which advocates Israel's destruction, does not want to lose face by freeing Shalit without getting something in return. Israel says it does not want to set a precedent that could lead to more abductions.

Hamas sources said Western diplomats, whom they did not name, had told the group that Israel had prepared a 13-man hit list headed by exiled leader Khaled Meshaal and including Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh and Foreign Minister Mahmoud al-Zahar.

Israel sent troops into the southern Gaza Strip last Wednesday. Tanks pushed just inside the north on Monday in a possible prelude to a deeper incursion into the area, often used by militants firing rockets into Israel. *Reuters*

# Conservative wins Mexico poll by a hair

MEXICO CITY—CONSERVATIVE Felipe Calderon won Mexico's presidential election by a razor-thin margin, according to preliminary results posted Monday which his leftist rival contested, demanding a recount.

The results issued by the Federal Electoral Institute (IFE) gave Calderon 36.38 percent of the vote to 35.34 percent for Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador. IFE stressed the results were not valid until completion of a verification process due to start on Wednesday.

But Calderon, of the ruling National Action Party (PAN), insisted he had won with an "irreversible" lead over Lopez Obrador, who called for a recount, "polling station by polling station." "Today I can assure all Mexicans I won the election," Calderon, 43, told the Televisa network.

Lopez Obrador, 52, for his part, said he would accept defeat only if it is clearly proven he had lost.

"There are many inconsistencies," he said at a news conference.

The standard bearer of the Party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD) did not rule out calling his supporters onto the streets.

"If we won, even by one vote, I will defend it," he said.

The political cliffhanger was being closely followed by Washington, which had hoped to see a reversal of the trend that brought several leftist leaders to power across Latin America in recent years.

But the US administration insisted on Monday it would work with whoever wins the election. Mexico "is an ally and neighbor, and obviously, we've got a great number of shared interests," said White House spokesperson Tony Snow. *AFP*

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# After 9/11, global transport still vulnerable

PARIS—NEARLY FIVE YEARS AFTER AL-QAIDA forever changed the way nations seek to protect their citizens, the world's transport networks still remain highly vulnerable to terrorist attack, experts and analysts say.

Many of the deadliest terrorist strikes this century involved public conveyance systems used by much of humanity to get from one place to another—commercial planes in the US on Sept. 11, 2001, trains in Madrid and a ferry in Manila in 2004, buses and the underground in London one year ago on July 7.

But post-9/11 national and international efforts to secure transport by land, air and sea have fallen short, making vehicles of mass transit easy targets for would-be terrorists with a serious grudge and a few thousand dollars to spend.

Nowhere, perhaps, are the weaknesses in the defenses against such attacks more evident than in commercial air traffic, despite enhanced security in airports around the world.

While it may be more difficult for a terrorist to board a plane with explosives or the intention to commit a suicide hijacking, commercial aircraft remain vulnerable—especially as they take off and land—to external attack by cheap and easily-acquired shoulder-held rockets, notes Frenchman Eric Denece, author of "Tourism and Terrorism" and an expert on the mechanics of terrorism.

Just last month Swiss police arrested seven people linked to what federal prosecutors said was a plot to down an Israeli El Al flight in Switzerland. Unconfirmed Swiss media reports said the group planned to use a rocket launcher near the Geneva airport.

Some security experts advocate equipping all commercial aircraft with electronic decoy systems to deflect surface-to-air missiles of the kind fired in 2002 at an Israeli plane near Mombassa airport in Kenya. Such a refit would cost $11 billion for the nearly 7,000 commercial planes in the US alone, according to the RAND corporation, a global policy think tank involved in research on armed forces, in California.

But such anti-missile systems are useless against the most primitive of rockets. "There is not interference possible against a RPG-7," said Denece, referring to the Soviet-made rocket launcher, a common item on the arms black market.

Ocean-going vessels, especially ships carrying thousands of standardized six to 12-meter containers, are also easy prey, experts say.

There is little to prevent a terrorist seeking to slip, for example, a weapon of mass destruction—such as a dirty bomb composed of conventional explosives and commercially-available radioactive material—into a shipment of tennis sneakers or steel pipes.

"If a terrorist wants to do it, he can do it," says American Michael Wall, a former instructor at the anti-terrorism center of the US Navy and currently a maritime security consultant. "Bringing a weapon of mass destruction into a port via a merchant vessel is a very realistic scenario." And the stakes, he said, are very high. "Any major breakdown in the maritime transport system could cost dearly in terms of lives and would fundamentally cripple global trade," he added. *AFP*

## AIDS victim may sue sex partner

PEOPLE INFECTED with the virus that causes AIDS may sue the sexual partner who transmitted the virus to them even if the partner did not do so knowingly, the California Supreme Court ruled Monday.

Bridget B. and John B., as they are known in court papers, started dating in 1998 and married in July 2000. According to Bridget, John told her he was healthy and monogamous, and he urged her to have unprotected sex with him. In October 2000, though, she tested positive for HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, as did he.

Bridget later learned, her lawsuit said, that John had had sex with men before and during their marriage. She seeks compensation for emotional distress and fraud. *NYT*

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & COMMUNICATIONS
**LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE**
East Avenue, Quezon City
E-mail Address: ltombox@lto.gov.ph * Website: www.lto.gov.ph

### Invitation to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid

Republic of the Philippines

### PROCUREMENT OF TWO-WAY RADIO COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT

The Land Transportation Office, through Fund 151 (MVUC) intends to apply the sum of Two Million Nine Hundred Thirty Four Thousand Three Hundred Sixteen Pesos (P2,934,316.00) being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) of payment for the procurement of two-way radio communication equipment. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at Bid opening.

The Land Transportation Office now invites Bids from eligible Bidders for the items. The required delivery schedule will be indicated in the approved Contract. The description of an eligible Bidder is contained in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB.

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act 9184, otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act," and is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to Republic Act 5183 (R.A. 5183) and subject to Commonwealth Act 138 (C.A. 138). Only bids from Bidders who pass the eligibility check will be opened. The process for the eligibility check is described in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB. The bidder with the Lowest Calculated Bid (LCB) shall advance to the post-qualification stage in order to finally determine responsiveness of the bid to technical and financial requirements of the project. The contract shall then be awarded to the Lowest Calculated and Responsive Bidder (LCRB) who was determined as such during the post-qualification procedure.

Interested Bidders may obtain further information from the BAC Sub-Committee and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount of Php 10,000.00, in the form of cash. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.

The Land Transportation Office will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on July 14, 2006 at 2:00 P.M., at the LTO-Library, East Avenue, Quezon City.

Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered to the address below on or before July 26, 2006 at 2:00 P.M. All bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in any of the following form.

| Form of Security | Minimum Amount in % of Approved Budget for the Contract to be Bid |
|---|---|
| 1. Cash, certified check, cashier's check, manager's check, bank draft or irrevocable letter of credit | One Percent (1%) |
| 2. Bank Guarantee | One and a half Percent (1 1/2%) |
| 3. Surety Bond | Two and a half Percent (2 1/2%) |
| 4. Foreign government guarantee | One hundred Percent (100%) |

Late Bids shall not be accepted.

Bid opening shall be on July 26, 2006 at 2:00 P.M. at LTO-Library, East Avenue, Quezon City. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidder's representatives who choose to attend at the address below.

The Land Transportation Office reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

Land Transportation Office
Atty. Jimmy G. Pesigan, Chairman, BAC
East Avenue, Quezon City
(02) 9219077 – telefax

Engr. Roberto S. Se – Chairman, BAC Sub-Committee
Property Section, LTO, East Avenue, Quezon City
(02) 9292015 telefax

(Sgd.) ATTY. JIMMY G. PESIGAN
BAC-Chairman

(PDI – July 5 & 13, 2006)

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## TV GUIDE

Wednesday July 5, 2006

THEY WILL BE THE JUDGES. YOU WILL BE THE JURY.
Philippine Idol
ABANGAN SA JULY 29!
ABC
Iba Tayo!

ClickTheCity.com
clickthecity.com

| Channel | 2:30PM | 3:00PM | 3:30PM | 4:00PM | 4:30PM | 5:00PM | 5:30PM | 6:00PM | 6:30PM | 7:00PM | 7:30PM | 8:00PM | 8:30PM | 9:00PM | 9:30PM | 10:00PM | 10:30PM | 11:00PM | 11:30PM |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ABC 5 | | | | National Geographic | PBA | | | | Sentro | PBA | | | | | Big News | The Best Of American Idol | | | |
| ABS-CBN 2 | Kapamilya Cinema | | | Pasion de Amor | Little Amy | Mr. Bean | Naruto | Calla Lily | TV Patrol World | | Kapamilya Deal Or No Deal | Bituing Walang Ningning | Sa Piling Mo | My Girl | A Love To Kill | S.O.C.O | | | Insider |
| AXN | | CSI: NY (Season 2) | | Worlds Apart | | The World's Most Extreme Races | | Amazon | | Andromeda (Season V) | | 30 Seconds To Fame | Samsung Sports World | Maximum Exposure (Season I) | | CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (Season 6) | | CSI: Miami (Season II) | |
| Cartoon Network | Police Academy | Richie Rich | Tom & Jerry Show | Baby Looney Tunes | Hi Hi Puffy AmiYumi | The Grim Adventures Of Billy & Mandy - Double Episodes | | The Simpsons - Double Episodes | | Power Rangers Ninja Storm | PokeMon | Dico | Gundam Seed Destiny | The Simpsons | | Mucha Lucha! | Duck Dodgers | Justice League | Samurai Jack |
| Cinemax | Chanda (2:25PM) | | | | Quick Change (4:25 PM) | | | The Blues Brothers | | | | Crash Landing | | | Batman | | | | [illegible] 3 (11:35PM) |
| CNN | | Business International | | World News | World Sport | Larry King Live | | Business International | World Sport | World News Asia | | World News | World Sport | World News Asia | World News Asia | Your World Today | | | |
| Crime/Suspense | | Cold Case | | Law & Order: Special Victims Unit | | Profiler | | Forensic Files | I, Detective | Law & Order | | Law & Order: Special Victims Unit | | | | | | Bones | |
| Disney Channel | Mr. Bean, The Animated Series | Totally Spies | Art Attack/Un-[illegible] Bunny | Sabrina, The Animated Series | Lilo & Stitch | Martin Mystery | Totally Spies | Kim Possible | Mr. Bean, The Animated Series | That's So Raven | Wonderful World Of Disney | | | American Dragon | Buzz on Maggie | Kim Possible | Totally Spies | Wonderful World Of Disney | |
| ESPN | | | | | | | | | | | | Company Tonight | | | | | | | |
| ETC | | America's Next Top Model 4 | | Change of Heart | Elimidate | Blind Date | Fifth Wheel | Seinfeld | Ambush Makeover | The Tyra Banks Show | | Veronica Mars 2 | | Beach Girls | | Entertainment Tonight | The Insider | The Tonight Show With Jay Leno | |
| ETC 2nd Avenue | | Starting Over | | The Maury Povich Show | | The Jerry Springer Show | | Dr. Phil | | NBC Nightly News | The Inside Edition | The Ellen Show | | Wheel Of Fortune | Jeopardy | Cold Turkey | | NBC Nightly News | The Inside Edition |
| EWTN | St. Thomas More: Faithful Statesman | Chaplet Of Mercy/ Angelus | Faith In Motion | Truth In The Heart | Rosary With Mother Angelica | EWTN Gallery | Suffering And The Love Of God | EWTN Catholic Classic | The Church & The Poor: Building Bridges | Mother Angelica Live Classics | | Daily Mass Live | | Holy Land Rosary/ Angelus | One In Their Hearts: Holiness Of Priesthood | Parable | Rome Reports | Special Programming | |
| Fox News | | On The Record With Greta Van Susteren | | The O'Reilly Factor | | Your World With Neil Cavuto | | Fox & Friends | | | | | | Fox News Live | | | | | |
| GMA 7 | Agawin Mo Man Ang Lahat (2:45PM) | Now and Forever (3:15PM) | Endless Love 1: Autumn In My Heart By Popular Demand | | Saiyuki | Dragonball Z | Gokusen | 24 Oras | | Captain Barbell | Majika | I Luv NY | | Love Of The Condor Heroes | | Nuts Entertainment | | | Saksi |
| Hallmark Channel | | Emma (3:15PM) | | | | | | Bewitched | The Nanny | Judging Amy | | Doc Martin | | Judging Amy | | | | | Judging Amy (11:45PM) |
| HBO | | | | The Land Before Time X: The Great Longneck Migration | | | Bad Apple | | | Catwoman (7:15PM) | | | | The School Of Rock | | | Constantine (10:45PM) | | |
| Hero TV | Yu-Gi-Oh Duel Monsters | Yakitate! Japan | Mr. Ajikko | D.I.C.E. | Super Gals | Angelic Layer | Tokyo Underground | Metal Fighter Miku | Beyblade G-Revolution | Yu-Gi-Oh GX | Naruto | Mirmo de Pon | Inuyasha | Yu-Gi-Oh Duel Monsters | Yakitate! Japan | Mr. Ajikko | D.I.C.E | Super Gals | Angelic Layer |
| IBC 13 | | EZ Shop | | | | Home Shopping Network | IBC Express Balita | TV Infomercial | | Japan Video Topics/ Ams | | ME TV | | Travel Philippines | BYK 101 | Up Close And Personal | IBC News Tonite | Breaking Barriers | |
| JackTV | The Daily Show With Jon Stewart | The Late Show David Letterman | | Heat | | Velocity | | X-Men | Street Smarts | Mad TV | | That 70s Show | My Name Is Earl | The Late Show David Letterman | | The Daily Show With Jon Stewart | Premium Blend | Primetime Glick | Chappelle Show |
| Lifestyle Network | | 30 Minute Meals | Wolfgang Puck | Sweet Dreams | Smart Solutions | Sensible Chic | Decorating Cents | Iron Chef America | | My Country, My Kitchen | E! Entertainment Special | | Living Space | Martha | | Fine Living Special | | Intimate Portrait | |
| MTV Philippines | | Laguna Beach | | | MTV Hits (with SMS) | | | | | Get Spotted | | | | TRL | | Laguna Beach | | | |
| MYX | | Rock MYX | My MYX | Mellow MYX | Urban MYX | Take 5 | MYXLOG | MYX Firsts | Star MYX | OPM MYX | Pop MYX | MYX Daily Top Ten | | MYX Live! | | Urban MYX | My MYX | MYX Backtrax | MYXLOG |
| National Geographic | Wildlife Diary | Nat'l Geographic Specials | | Journey Into Amazonia | | | | | | | | About Asia | | Nat'l Geographic Specials | | | | | |
| NBN | | Teledyaryo Alas-Tres | | Teleshopping Sports Asia | Dyaryo Ko, Mahal Mo Ba Siya? | Teledyaryo W/ Ray Lanot & Angelique Lazo | | Tinig ng Bayan (Live) | | | | Teledyaryo Final Edition | | | | Bantay OCW With Susan K | | | |
| Nickelodeon | Chalkzone | Hey Arnold! | SpongeBob SquarePants | Rocket Power | Four Eyes | SpongeBob SquarePants/ Right On Top | My Life As A Teenage Robot | Nick Kicks | | The Fairly Odd Parents | Drake & Josh | Unfabulous | Romeo | Naturally Sadie | SpongeBob SquarePants | As Told By Ginger | The Fairly Odd Parents | My Dad The Rock Star | |
| PBO | | | Rocky & Rolly | | | | [illegible] | | | | [illegible] | | | | Hinukay Ko Na Ang Libingan Mo | | | | [illegible] |
| Qtv | Ikaw Lang Ang Mamahalin | | Scrapped Princess | Kaleido Star | MMS (My Music Station) | | Moms | | Magic Ring | Irene | Noel | Project 11 | Now Na! | | News On Q | Balikbayan | | Irene | Over The Green Fields |
| RPN 9 | | | | | | Global Window | RPN Aksyon News | Entertainment Tonight | The Insider | NBA Series/ Conference Finals | | | | | | Newswatch Now | Cargo For Truth | | Kerygma |
| SBN 21 | | | | New Life TV Shopping | | | | Winner TV Shopping | | Sony Music Video | | Oras Ng Himala | | Oras ng Katotohanan | | SBN Music Video | | | |
| Solar Sports | | | Boxing Greatest Classics | | | 2006 US Open 8-Ball Champ | | NBA TV Daily | | Sagupaan | NBA Jam | NBA Greatest Game: NBA All-Star Game | | | | Solar Sports Desk | NBA Access | 2006 Thomas Cup Finals | |
| Sports Plus | | | Inside the PGA | French Open '06 Day 13 & 14 Highlights | | | | Raceworld | | NASCAR Pepsi 400 Daytona | | | | | | | Next Turbovision 3 | World Game | |
| Star Movies | | | | [illegible] (3:50 PM) | | | Confessions of a Sociopathic Social Climber | | | First Daughter (7:15PM) | | | | Boogeyman | | | Dirty Deeds | | |
| Star World | | The Bold & The Beautiful | | General Hospital | | Ed | | The Simpsons | Malcolm in The Middle | Star News Asia | Seinfeld | Beauty & The Geek | | Boston Legal | | The Apprentice | | Seinfeld | Beauty & The Geek |
| Studio 23 | Bewitched | Yu-Gi-Oh 3 & 4 | | | | Batman Beyond | Xiaolin Showdown | Spirits | Pinoy Big Brother | Wazzup Wazzup | World's Craziest Videos | | CSI (8:20 PM) | 24 Season 4 (9:10 PM) | | News Central | Oprah | | Just Shoot Me |

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**WHAT'S INSIDE**

'Keepers may hold World Cup key /A25

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### BEST-OF-7 FINALS

# Bulls, Giants start PBA Philippine Cup series

PUREFOODS' Roger Yap drives off a phalanx of Red Bull defenders led by Enrico Villanueva (left) in a recent game between the two teams. RYAN LIM

**PUREFOODS HAS A MODEST TARGET OF REcapturing the crown it hasn't won in a long time. For Red Bull, this championship has an intrinsic historical value different from the exploits of the past.**

**GAMES TODAY**
*(Araneta Coliseum)*
4:40 p.m.—Alaska vs San Miguel Beer (battle for 3rd place)
7:35 p.m.—Red Bull vs Purefoods (Game 1, Finals)

Despite the disparity, the Giants and the Bulls share the goal of winning the Gran Matador Brandy PBA Philippine Cup when the best-of-seven championship series starts today at the Araneta Coliseum.

"We're seeking a place in history other teams have yet to achieve," said Red Bull coach Yeng Guiao as the Bulls aim for a back-to-back title after capturing the import-flavored Fiesta Cup last conference.

Since the PBA transformed itself into two-conference season last year, the definition of a grand slam was narrowed down to a pair of titles in a season.

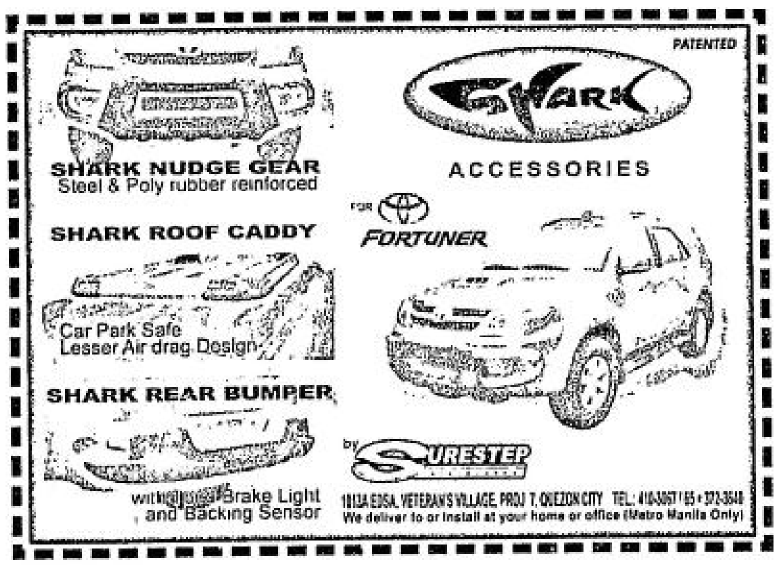
"The traditional grand slam is now gone," said Guiao. "So if you win two conferences, we can call it the modern version of a grand slam. If we win, we'll have a place in the record books and nobody can take that away from us."

Coach Ryan Gregorio of Purefoods agrees, but has other things in mind. Clinching another All-Filipino plum for the franchise is one of them, according to the youngest mentor in the league today.

The Giants bagged an all-Filipino crown in 1997, the last of three AFCs of the Alvin Patrimonio era.

"We're bringing the battle to a different dimension," said Gregorio, whose first crown came when the Giants won the 2002 Governors Cup.

After losing to the Bulls in the Fiesta Cup Finals, the Giants are bound to be sturdier this time in the Finals backed by Welcoat Paints with Marc Pingris, Roger Yap and Noy Castillo blending well with James Yap and Kerby Raymundo. *June Navarro*



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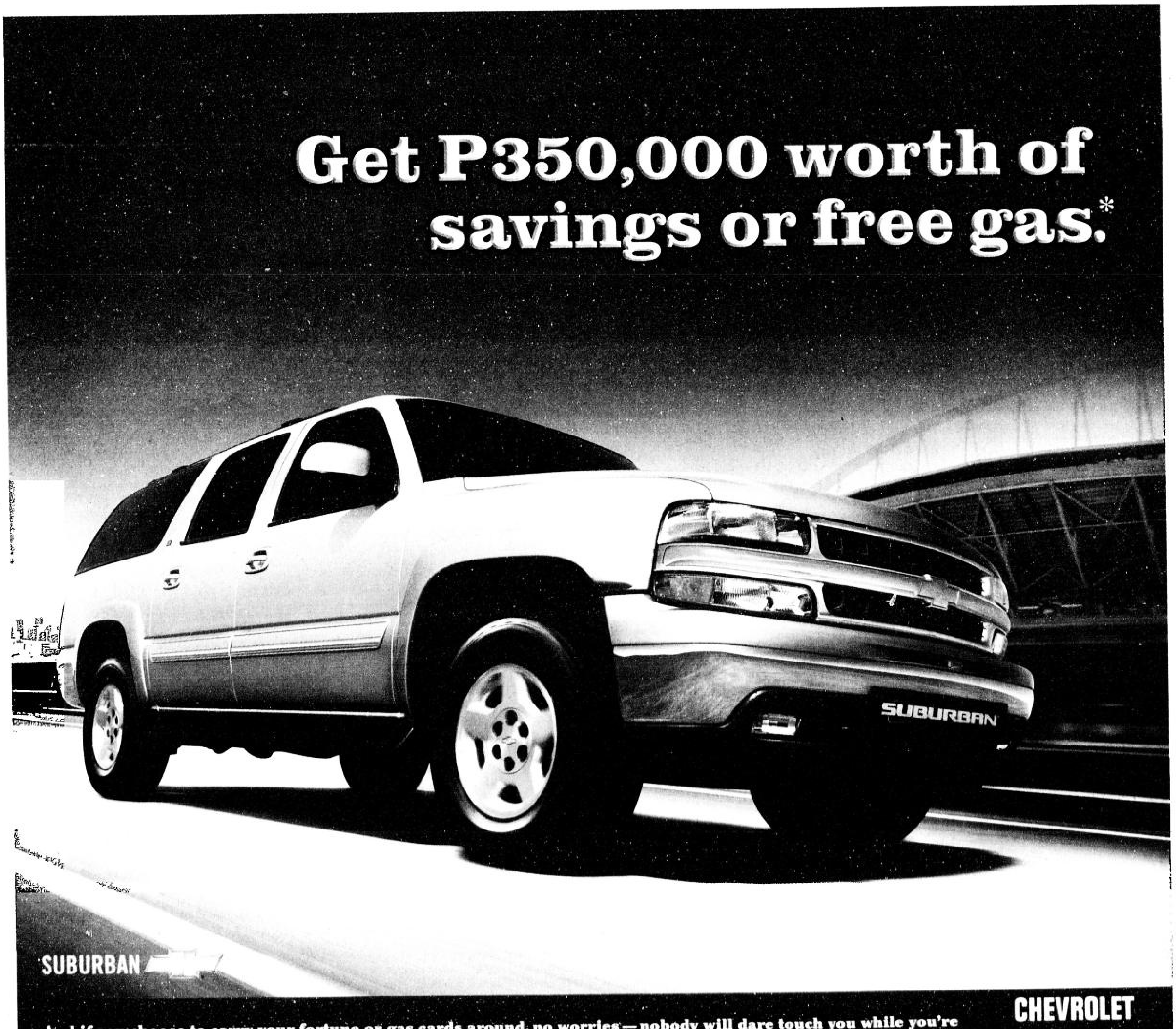

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| STANDINGS | W | L |
|---|---|---|
| Letran | 2 | 0 |
| PCU | 2 | 1 |
| San Beda | 2 | 1 |
| Perpetual | 1 | 1 |
| Mapua | 1 | 1 |
| St. Benilde | 1 | 2 |
| S. Sebastian | 1 | 3 |
| Jose Rizal | 0 | 1 |

**GAMES TODAY**
*(Ninoy Aquino Stadium)*
12 noon—Letran vs Jose Rizal U (Jrs/Srs)
4 p.m.—PCU vs Perpetual (Srs/Jrs)

# Both ends meet in NCAA today

THE TOP AND BOTTOM ENDS OF THE STANDINGS meet today with one team hoping to keep its unblemished slate and the other trying to score its first win.

Defending champion Letran will stake its 2-0 win-loss slate against the only winless team, Jose Rizal University, at 2 p.m. in the NCAA men's basketball at the Ninoy Aquino Stadium.

And a rout is on the horizon as the Knights showed championship form in their first two games. Veteran Aaron Aban is also back on the fold and played a big role in Letran's 81-73 whipping of San Sebastian last Monday.

But the Heavy Bombers had an 11-day break that could work wonders for them, especially since they are just warming up with new coach Ariel Vanguardia.

Providing subplot from the sidelines are coach Louie Alas and Vanguardia, who was Alas' assistant coach for the Manila Metrostars when it won the MBA title in 1999. They also share the bench with the successful Toyota Otis team in the PBL.

"The team (Bombers) is hungry after losing to San Beda," said Alas. "We expect them to come out strong. Besides, Ariel knows my system, that's why he doesn't have to spend time scouting us. I have no idea what he's going to do tomorrow."

Last year's runner-up, Philippine Christian U, tries to extend its own winning streak to three when it battles Perpetual Help at 4 p.m.

The Knights are currently on top of the standings with a 2-0 card, followed by the Dolphins and the San Beda College Red Lions with similar 2-1 records. The Altas and the Mapua Cardinals are locked at 1-1.

The Dolphins try to follow up their 74-72 win over the Stags last Friday, where 2004 MVP and Rookie of the Year Gabby Espinas scored 24 points.

Perpetual Help, on the other hand, hopes to avenge its 79-76 loss to St. Benilde, also last Friday.

*Marc Anthony Reyes*

# UAAP wars 'tough to call' despite Archers' absence

By Jasmine W. Payo

THE UAAP MEN'S BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT remains a tough field even without one of the league's most formidable squads.

As perennial finalist La Salle serves its one-year suspension, coaches are still expecting fierce competition among the remaining seven squads.

"If you're not ready to play, you can be beaten by any team in the UAAP," said Ateneo coach Norman Black during a press conference yesterday at ABS-CBN.

"La Salle is just one challenge," added Black. "It wasn't our decision to take them out of the league this year. We'll just deal with the teams available to us. We still think it's going to be tough for us to win even without La Salle."

University of the East coach Dindo Pumaren agrees, even if his Warriors were picked as title-favorites due to a solid core bannered by Bonbon Custodio, Mark Borboran and Marcy Arellano.

"I think all the teams are competitive, especially Ateneo and FEU," said Pumaren. "Despite the departure of LA Tenorio, Ateneo still has a team of veterans. FEU, it just reloads every year so it remains strong even without Arwind Santos."

Seasoned big men JC Intal and Doug Kramer will be returning for Ateneo, while wingman Jeff Chan and playmaker Jonas Villanueva will be fueling FEU's charge.

The UAAP board suspended the La Salle Archers for one season for fielding two ineligible basketball players in the seniors division in the last three years.

"Let's put the issue of La Salle to rest," appealed league president Luz Sta. Ana of host UE. "It's just unfortunate that the incident happened, but it's already the past."

Sta. Ana also said that league officials implemented a tighter screening process this season, which fires off on Saturday at the Araneta Coliseum.

"We had to be more careful," said Sta. Ana. "We had to require the registrars of each university to take a closer look and scrutinize all documents and have them authenticated before submitting them to the UAAP board."

ABS-CBN vice president for sports Peter Musngi said they have come up with innovative marketing strategies in the absence of one of the league's glamour squads.

"We'll definitely come up with something new for the UAAP coverage," he said. "We're not just depending on the seniors basketball alone, but we'll also have a full season (coverage) of volleyball."

The UE Warriors will battle Adamson in the 2 p.m. curtain-raiser, while the Ateneo Eagles and the National University Bulldogs collide at 4 p.m.

Three new faces will be plotting strategies this season.

Calling the shots for the University of the Philippines is Joe Lipa, who steered the Maroons to their only title in 1986.

Former pro star Pido Jarencio will debut as coach with the University of Santo Tomas Tigers, while multititled Leo Austria has assumed the coaching chores for the Adamson Falcons.

Returning on the bench are coach Bert Flores for the defending champion FEU Tamaraws and Manny Dandan for the National University Bulldogs.

**ALL TOGETHER NOW:** UAAP coaches (from left) Dindo Pumaren of UE, Manny Dandan of NU, Norman Black of Ateneo, Pido Jarencio of UST, Bert Flores of FEU and Leo Austria of Adamson pledge fine play. UP coach Joe Lipa failed to show up. AUGUST DELA CRUZ

# Misunderstanding Manny Pacquiao

**BARE EYE**

*Recah Trinidad*

BELIEVE IT OR NOT, THERE WERE people who could not forgive Manny Pacquiao for what he did at the Araneta Coliseum on Sunday.

These frustrated people protested, as though Pacquiao was a no-show at the Big Dome for what was easily the greatest luncheon date of his career.

No way, he's a liar, cried a street fan in the evening newscast over GMA-7 on Monday.

His pale face puffed, the poor fellow either had a sleepless night, or he could have tore at what little was left of his hairdo, while refusing to accept Pacquiao's failure to knock out his Mexican foe.

Of course, there were countless others who continued to feel their boxing hero had shortchanged them.

* * *

That's understandable. After they had elevated Pacquiao to a super hero, an all-conquering savior, they now expected an incredible feat from the fearless warrior whenever he would enter the boxing ring.

They just could not see through the greatness of Pacquiao's performance when, displaying grace (under pressure) and all-around skills, he turned the ring at the Araneta into a boxing studio.

Those who know their boxing—led by lawyer Rudy Salud, founding sec-gen of the WBC—were one in hailing Pacquiao for his full elevation to a complete boxer, based on his colorful and classy stand on Sunday.

Still, the widespread displeasure, to repeat, was all to be expected.

* * *

It's like this. There continues to exist in this poor country a school of thought reared in the belief that the only legit win in boxing comes via a knockout. No ifs, no buts.

Well, that could be forgiven, too. But what took the cake in this post-fight Pacquiao bashing was the dark pronouncement from this veteran sports journalist, a graying alien who gained Filipino citizenship by shining the shoes—licking actually—of Ferdinand Marcos with his shameless tongue.

The converted Pinoy, speaking our native tongue as though Filipino was a forgotten language, tried to play sage and declared an abomination.

He told the evening audience that Pacquiao saw it fit to let the 12-round fight with Oscar Larios go the full distance in order to accommodate all the television commercials.

* * *

No, it was not a mere suggestion. Spoken like a sage, this Pacquiao accuser sounded as though he had proof to back his incredible claim.

Of course, he had none.

As could only be expected, Dong Puno, a top honcho at ABS-CBN, which bankrolled the $4-million Mano a Mano, was raging mad.

Hermie Rivera, who reported on Mr. Puno's reaction, did not say if libel charges were being readied.

Anyway, this bogus Pinoy next found it fit to scratch the back of ABS-CBN with a condescending column of his the morning after.

* * *

Well the harm had been done.

Meanwhile, Pacquiao coolly explained his refusal to go blindly for the kill against Larios.

If it were a basketball game, the Pacman said, he had merely resorted to outside shots, instead of driving past a phalanx of deathly defenders.

It would have been foolhardy doing a layup and forcing himself in when, in fact, there was a better way to score and win.

At least, Pacquiao also managed to display a necessary unit in his arsenal—proper pacing—by refusing to go for an early kill, lest he ran out of oxygen in the first half.

Manny Pacquiao had his cake and ate it too. Not bad for a fighter who did not train sufficiently for the big bout.

Unfortunately, not everybody could be happy with the incredible feat.

# Spring-NBC five whips Thailand nat'l squad, settles for 5th place

HATYAI, THAILAND—THE PHILIPPINES' NBC Selection crushed Thailand's national team, 106-81, Saturday and settled for fifth spot in the 10th Crown Prince International basketball tournament here.

Ex-pro Marvin Ortiguerra led six other Filipinos in double figures as the Spring Cooking Oil-backed team dominated the game from the start.

"Although they failed to win the title, I'm happy with the boys' showing," said Spring Cooking Oil team owner and NBC president Nathaniel "Tac" Padilla.

Iran's national team ruled the eight-team tournament, followed by Thailand's Hi-Tech Ballclub, India's national squad and the China Chuazhong University.

The Spring-NBC team was also supported by Ozamiz City Mayor Reynaldo Parojinog, Iligan City Mayor Lawrence Cruz, Iloilo City Mayor Jerry Trenas, Tagaytay City Mayor Bambol Tolentino, Firefly Lightings and Toyota-Iloilo.

The scores:

SPRING-NBC 106—Ortiguerra 19, Kalaw 12, Guerrero 12, Reyes 10, Mallari 10, Capobres 10, Cavan 10, Senierez 6, Rodriguez 6, Yambao 5, Matias 4.

THAILAND 81—Dolip 14, Terawut 13, Pipat 13, Nattanit 13, Atapom 9, Bunchai 8, Chaiwat 4, Pitak 4, Vichai 3.

Quarters: 33-27, 66-42, 84-57, 106-81

# Filipino youth shuttlers blank Jordan, Cambodia

THE PHILIPPINE YOUTH TEAM ROUTED JORDAN AND Cambodia over the weekend to barge into the third round of the Asian Juniors Badminton Championship team event in Kuala Lumpur. Bannered by four players from the RP junior pool, Kevin Tim Ang, Bryan Chan and sisters Raquel and Rachel Guerrero, the Nationals hurdled their first two assignments without giving up a set. The RP shuttlers first shut out Jordan, 5-0, last Sunday anchored on Kevin Tim Ang's 21-0, 21-9 rout of Mustafa Ali in boys' singles. Riding the momentum of that victory, the Filipinos proceeded to whitewash Cambodia Monday night as Ang once again started the romp with a 21-7, 21-12 win over L. Chandisey.

## SPORTSWATCH

### Makati derby stakes P2M

A PRIZE POT OF P2 MILLION PLUS A BRAND NEW FORD Escape are at stake in the "Salpukan Sa Taglugon" 5-cock derby which kicks off on Monday at the Makati Coliseum. Participants may field an entry during the 2-cock elimination rounds on July 10, 12, 15, 17 and 19 of the derby sponsored by B-Meg Derby Ace, said promoters Lito Orillaza, Rudy Salud and William Co of WTJ Sports and Amusement Corp., A daily special prize of P100,000 will be divided among participants with scores of two points in the elimination rounds. The 3-cock finals will be on July 22. The derby requires an entry fee of P10,000 and minimum bet of P5,500. For inquiries, call 896-3545 or 895-6475.

### Small breeders join SJC cockfest

MORE THAN 80 SMALLTIME BREEDERS AND COCKERS are among the early registrants for the "Rambulan Sa San Juan" 5-cock derby on July 17, 19, 21, 24, 26, and 29 at San Juan Coliseum. Main sponsor is Sagupaan Complexor 3000. According to Ronnie Lacsina, one of the promoters, the derby's P3.5-million total prize purse is guaranteed by the SJC management. At stake each day of the elimination rounds is P200,000. The semifinals and finals will be held on July 26 and 29. For reservation of cockhouses, call the SJC office at 725-6563, 725-5369 or 0917-8041691.

# Bulls, Giants mainstays lead MVP race

**IN HUDDLE**

*Beth Celis*

JUST BEFORE THE Mano-a-Mano clash between Filipino boxing icon Manny Pacquiao and Mexican Oscar Larios last Sunday, Manny expressed hope that the bout would bring joy to his countrymen ("*Sana mapaligaya ko ang mga kababayan ko*") and that neither he nor Larios would get badly hurt.

Well, Manny got both wishes. His victory brought immense happiness to Filipinos and, except for a few cuts here and there, Larios remained healthy. Manny escaped practically unscathed.

Indeed, the sporting event was a smashing success.

From what I heard, the fight registered the highest TV rating ever in the history of local television and it was easy to see that the coverage was loaded with commercials.

But inspite of these, I wonder if ABS-CBN was able to recoup its humongous expenses which ran to millions of dollars.

* * *

**I am saying this because a friend who works for the giant TV network said they suffered immense losses in gate receipts.**

**Because of the huge investment, no one could fault ABS-CBN if they priced the tickets a bit too high for the ordinary Filipino: P47,520, P31,680 and P21,120 for patron, ringside and lower box seats, respectively; P7,920 and 2,640 for Upper Box A and B seats, and P528 for general admission. All these prices are inclusive of ticketnet charges.**

**Since the tickets were not selling as expected, my friend said they had to pull-out millions worth of tickets—the equivalent of about 10,000 seats—a couple of days before the fight. These were all given away free, much to the delight of the recipients.**

**Manny made it explicitly clear that he didn't want to fight in a half-empty coliseum.**

**No wonder he had asked Dyan Castillejo during a pre-fight interview if there was going to be a good attendance at the Araneta. He said he wasn't expecting the place to be bursting at the seams.**

**Well, at least ABS-CBN made thousands of Pinoys happy by giving them a live viewing of the Pacquiao-Larios fight.**

* * *

The day after the conclusion of the PBA Philippine Cup best-of-seven semifinal series, head statistician Fidel Mangonon was ready with the updated list of candidates for the Most Valuable Player, Best Player of the Conference and Rookie of the Year contests.

Just a week earlier, when there was absolutely no indication which two teams would make it to the finals, Fidel and I were discussing the possibilities.

If Red Bull and Purefoods failed to gain the Finals, for example, one of the possibilities was that the top 5 candidates would not be coming from a championship contender.

According to Fidel, the statistical points collected by the San Miguel Beermen and the Alaska Aces after the semis (which will be the basis for the selection for the MVP) might not be enough to elevate any of them to the top 5, which was then occupied by James Yap, Enrico Villanueva, Kerby Raymundo, Mark Caguioa and Lordy Tugade, in that order.

But that didn't happen. Purefoods managed to pull off three straight victories over Alaska, while Red Bull overcame the trauma of a near-walkout to prevail over San Miguel.

* * *

**Just as Fidel had predicted, the top 5 MVP slots were dominated by Purefoods and Red Bull cagers. Purefoods' Yap kept the No. 1 spot (1876 statistical points), followed by teammate Raymundo (1843), Red Bull's Villanueva (1831) and Tugade (1644) and Purefoods' Marc Pingris (1606).**

**This early, the three leading contenders are tipped to hotly dispute the coveted plum. The winners of the MVP and Rookie of the Year awards will be announced in Game 4, while the Best Player of the Conference (contested by Larry Fonacier with 1406 statistical points, Paolo Bugia with 997, Leo Najorda with 936, Mike Holper with 900 and Niño Canaleta with 850) will be declared in Game 3. Voting starts this week.**

**In the BPC race, SMB's Danny Seigle leads with 1931, followed by Alaska's Nic Belasco (1838), Yap (1797), SMB's Dorian Peña (1770) and Pingris (1682).**

RACING TIPS

**BY TOP CHOICE**

Race 1—(Qrt/Tri)—Morning Nell (2), Jigolo (6), Sky King (1), Bold Lucky (5)
Race 2—(Humble Guest (8), Olive Oyl (3), Yapee Yoyoh (5) Royal Lady (6), Exceptional Gem (2)
Race 3—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Guided Missile (3), Tanging Ikaw (1), Sovereign Dancer (7), Sky Bound (4), Brute Force (8)
Race 4—(Qrt/Tri)—Lady Commander (4), Queen of Diamonds (7), District Three (2), Mighty Mare (6)
Race 5—(Super 6/Qrt/Tri)Virgin Island (2), Latina (1), Refreshing (7), Uncle/Aim and Fire (11), Do It David (8), Remus (3)
Race 6—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Golay's Charm (7), Yankee Clipper (3), Fly Aday Fly (1), Don't Tell Me (2) Beautiful Jaeda (5)
Race 7—(Penta/Qrt/Tri)—Manhattan (4), Hello Junior (3), Mr. Lucas (7), Real Touch (1), Passing Through (5)
Race 8—(Super 6/Qrt/Tri)—Shy Girl (1), Accomplice (2), Premiere Event/In D Wind (5), Vinta's Pride (7), Ocean Dignity (10), Hong Kong Girl (9)

# 'Keepers may hold World Cup key

ITALY goalkeeper Gianluigi Buffon stops a ball during a training session before Tuesday's World Cup 2006 semifinal soccer match against Germany. AP

**BOCHUM, GERMANY—The guys who keep the ball out of the net after all else breaks down could decide this World Cup. If so, Italy might have the edge with Gianluigi Buffon.**

The Italians have allowed just one goal in five games, and that an own-goal. Not that opponents haven't had chances.

But Buffon, at his third World Cup, has been either solid or spectacular. His play against the Czech Republic in the opening round and Ukraine in the quarterfinals was reminiscent of some of Italy's greatest goalkeepers, from Enrico Albertosi in 1970 to Dino Zoff in 1982.

"It seemed like the Czechs didn't have much respect for me, otherwise they wouldn't have tried to beat me so many times," Buffon said with a laugh after making eight saves.

Ukraine striker Andriy Shevchenko called Buffon "the greatest goalkeeper in the world" after some superb stops in the quarterfinals.

Buffon's performances have come despite the distraction of his name prominently mentioned in a match-fixing scandal in Italy that also has focused on illegal betting.

"This was a much more complicated training camp than in past World Cups or European Championships," Buffon said.

Yet he's been the dominant keeper in the tournament. Germany's Jens Lehmann, Portugal's Ricardo Pereira and France's Fabien Barthez have had their moments—particularly Lehmann and Ricardo in penalty-kick shootouts—but Buffon has been the biggest standout at the toughest position in soccer.

"You need to sweat through seven shirts to beat Italy," he said, turning the compliments to his defense and midfield.

The Germans get the next shot—they hope more than one—at Buffon on Tuesday night in Dortmund. The winner moves on to Sunday's final in Berlin.

Lehmann isn't standing behind an experienced defense the way Buffon and Barthez are. Indeed, the back line was considered a weakness for Germany heading into the tournament.

It has improved throughout the World Cup, though, and Lehmann has anchored it with several brilliant saves.

Lehmann has rewarded coach Juergen Klinsmann, who was criticized for selecting him as the No. 1 over 2002 hero Oliver Kahn. *AP*

# *Sy, Peña lead Pinoy AF3 hopes*

PEÑA: Really fast

TIMES HAVE REALLY CHANGED IN the Asian Formula Three Series—and fast.

That's according to veteran driver Pepon Marave, the only Filipino so far to have won the AF3 crown since the series hit the international racing scene five years ago.

And barring any drastic changes in the race for this year's driver's championship, another local-born speedster could soon raise the Philippine flag anew in triumph.

"These young guys are really, really very good," Marave said in yesterday's PSA Forum at the Pantalan restaurant in Manila, referring to young racing stars Tyson Sy and Dado Peña. "I was really surprised. I thought I was already doing well. But these two guys, they're just exceptionally fast."

The two teenage stars are showing the way five rounds into this year's race that returns to the Zhuhai International Circuit in Guangdong province, China, next week for rounds six to nine.

Sy, of Speedtech Asia, is on top of the heap in the battle for the driver's championship with 87 points while Peña, lead driver of Team Goddard, is tied for third with newcomer Ali Jackson of Ireland's Aran Racing with 52 points.

The three, along with lady driver Gabby dela Merced of Speedtech Asia, Team Goddard principal Mark Goddard of Britain and AF3 Corp. chair Ed Peña, showed up in the public sports program sponsored by Pagcor and Manila Mayor Lito Atienza.

Marave marveled at how Peña, who will turn 19 this Saturday, and Sy, 18, have become a force to reckon with in the series in so short a time, having joined the series just two years ago.

Marave also has high regards for the Dela Merced, 23, who's running in the circuit for the very first time.

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# Metro Milo leg kicks off July 16

RUNNERS FROM THE METROPOLIS and nearby provinces compete for berths in the grand finals of the country's biggest foot race when the Metro Manila qualifying leg of the 30th National Milo Marathon kicks off on July 16 in Manila.

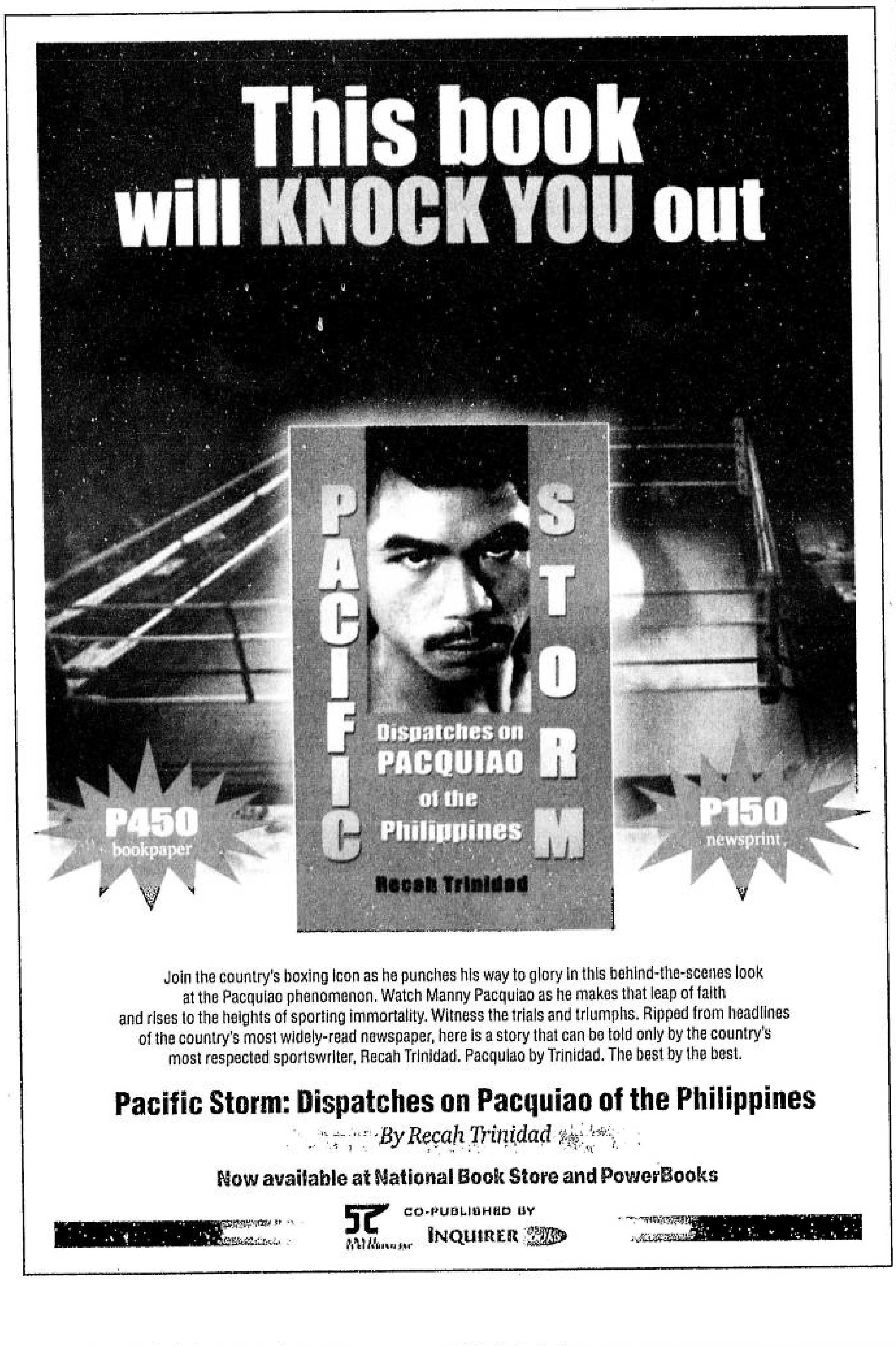
Of the 29 qualifying races this year, the Metro Manila leg is the only full-marathon (42K) and uses the same route as that of the Milo Marathon finals on Dec. 10.

The Manila leg, however, offers a bigger purse—P30,000 to the winners in the men's and women's divisions—than the other elimination races, which are disputed in the 21K distance.

A prize pot of P500,000 is at stake in the Metro Manila race, according to Milo Events sports executive Pat Goc Ong.

While the provincial elimination legs offer only three berths each in the national finals for both divisions, those who finish within the qualifying time of four hours for men and four and half hours for women will qualify to the December race.

A field of more than 15,000 runners are expected to join the Manila eliminations to be held in partnership with Bayview Park Hotel-Manila, Adidas, Cebu Pacific, Department of Tourism and Powerbar. Supporting the run is the Metro Manila Development Authority and the cities of Manila, Pasay, Parañaque, Makati, and Taguig.



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**FIFA WORLD CUP SEMIFINALS**
SPORTSPLUS—9 a.m., Germany vs Italy (replay @ 9 p.m.)
RPN-9—5 a.m., Germany vs. Italy

# SPORTS

# Federer makes q'finals

## Battles last player to have beaten him on grass

**WIMBLEDON, ENGLAND—IT'S BEEN FOUR years and 45 matches since Roger Federer lost on grass. The man who inflicted that defeat is back in Federer's path.**

Croatia's Mario Ancic will face the three-time defending Wimbledon champion in Wednesday's quarterfinals at the All England Club.

"It's great to have a chance again on such a big stage to play against Roger," said Ancic.

He was a mere qualifier when he beat Federer in straight sets in the first round of the 2002 championships.

Since then, the Swiss star has won seven Grand Slam titles and put himself in line to become one of the best players of all time.

Federer is three wins away from becoming the second player in the Open era to win four straight Wimbledon titles, joining Bjorn Borg (five straight from 1976-80) and Pete Sampras (1997-2000).

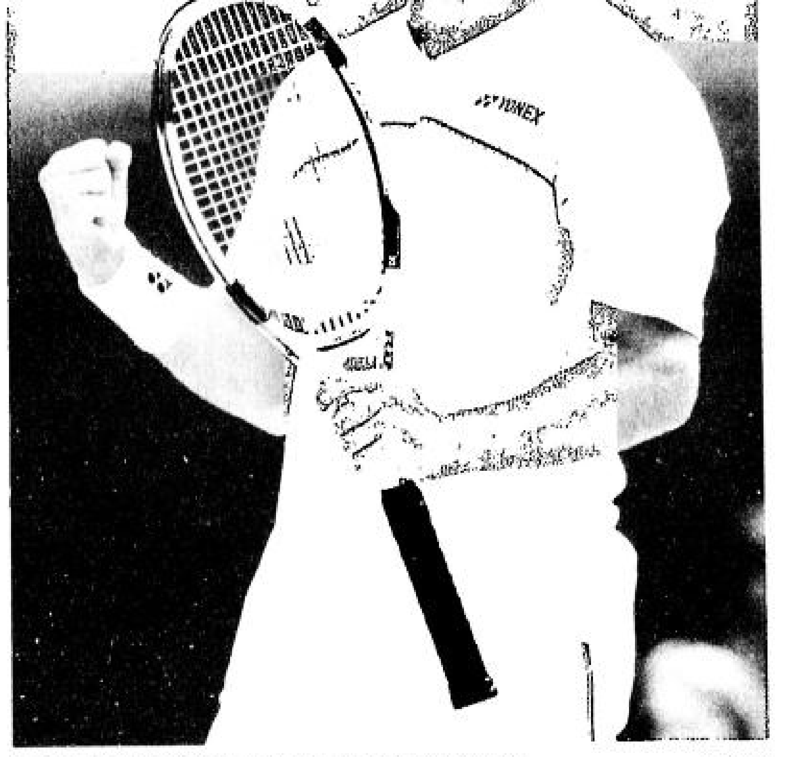
Federer beat Czech Tomas Berdych, 6-3, 6-3, 6-4, in the fourth round on Monday, and relished the chance to meet Ancic just three weeks after beating the Croat in three sets in the French Open quarterfinals. Since that 2002 Wimbledon loss, Federer is 3-0 against Ancic.

The 6-foot-5 (1.96-meter) Ancic, who served 31 aces in his 6-4, 4-6, 4-6, 7-5, 6-3 win over Serbia's Novak Djokovic, was often compared with countryman Goran Ivanisevic, who won Wimbledon as a wild card in 2001. Ancic reached the semis here in 2004.

Federer vs Ancic is the standout men's quarterfinal, with the winner to face either Sweden's Jonas Bjorkman or the Czech Republic's Radek Stepanek. In the bottom half, the matchups are: 2002 champion Lleyton Hewitt vs Australian Open runner-up Marcos Baghdatis of Cyprus, and French Open champ Rafael Nadal vs Finland's Jarkko Nieminen.

Stepanek, Baghdatis, Nadal and Nieminen have reached the final eight at Wimbledon for the first time.

The women's quarters were set for Tuesday. In the top half, it's top-seeded Amelie Mauresmo vs Anastasia Myskina, and 2004 champion Maria Sharapova vs Elena Dementieva. In the bottom half, it's third-seeded Justine Henin-Hardenne vs French qualifier Severine Bremond, and No. 2 Kim Clijsters vs Li Na, the first Chinese player to get this far at a Grand Slam. *AP*


LLEYTON Hewitt next faces Marcos Baghdatis. REUTERS

# *Annika finally wins US Open*

NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND—ANNIKA SORENSTAM kept trying to convince herself the US Women's Open was just another tournament, despite reminders at every turn of how much it meant and how long it had been since she won. Tiger Woods kept calling her through the weekend to cheer her on. Every shot demanded so much thought. Then came the 18-hole playoff on Monday against Pat Hurst, which turned out to be the easiest task Sorenstam faced at Newport Country Club. By seizing control from the start, Sorenstam built a big lead early and made short work of Hurst, closing with a 1-under 70 for a four-shot victory and her third Open title. No doubt, this was the sweetest. "It's been 10 years. It's been 10 long years," Sorenstam said. "But I'm very grateful and thankful." After four months without a victory, all it took was one week at historic Newport for Sorenstam to deliver a defiant answer about the state of her game and that so-called slump. *AP*

# *Hincapie Tour king for a day*

ESCH-SUR-ALZETTE, LUXEMBOURG—George Hincapie was Tour de France king for only a day, losing the overall lead and the yellow jersey that goes with it to accident-prone Thor Hushovd on a sweltering day. But there were no regrets. After seven years of watching his former boss, Lance Armstrong, wear yellow day-in, day-out, the genial American now hungry for his own glory was thrilled to have had the chance to savor the famed shirt for himself, if only for 24 hours. "A really special feeling, something I've always wanted to do," the veteran riding his 11th Tour said after slipping back from first to fourth in the overall standings on Monday's stage two, the second longest of this first post-Armstrong Tour. So far, Hincapie and Hushovd have monopolized the bright "maillot jaune." Hushovd, a Norwegian sprinter, won it first, beating Hincapie by a split second in the short opening time trial on Saturday. *AP*

# 'Big Ben' joins Chicago

DETROIT—FREE-AGENT CENTER BEN Wallace is leaving the Detroit Pistons to sign with the Chicago Bulls, a source within the NBA said on Monday.

The person, who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because NBA free agents can't officially sign contracts until July 12, said the Pistons offered Wallace a four-year contract worth about $50 million. That would have made him the highest-paid player on the team next season with a salary of $11.5 million.

Wallace told The Detroit News he will sign a four-year deal with the Bulls.

"I appreciate everything Detroit did for me and my family," he told the newspaper on Monday. "They gave me an opportunity to make a name for myself and we had an opportunity to win a championship together."

Wallace helped Detroit advance to four straight conference finals—the first team to do so since the Bulls of the early 1990s.

Joe Dumars, the Pistons' president of basketball operations, said late last week that his top priority was to re-sign 31-year-old Wallace. *AP*

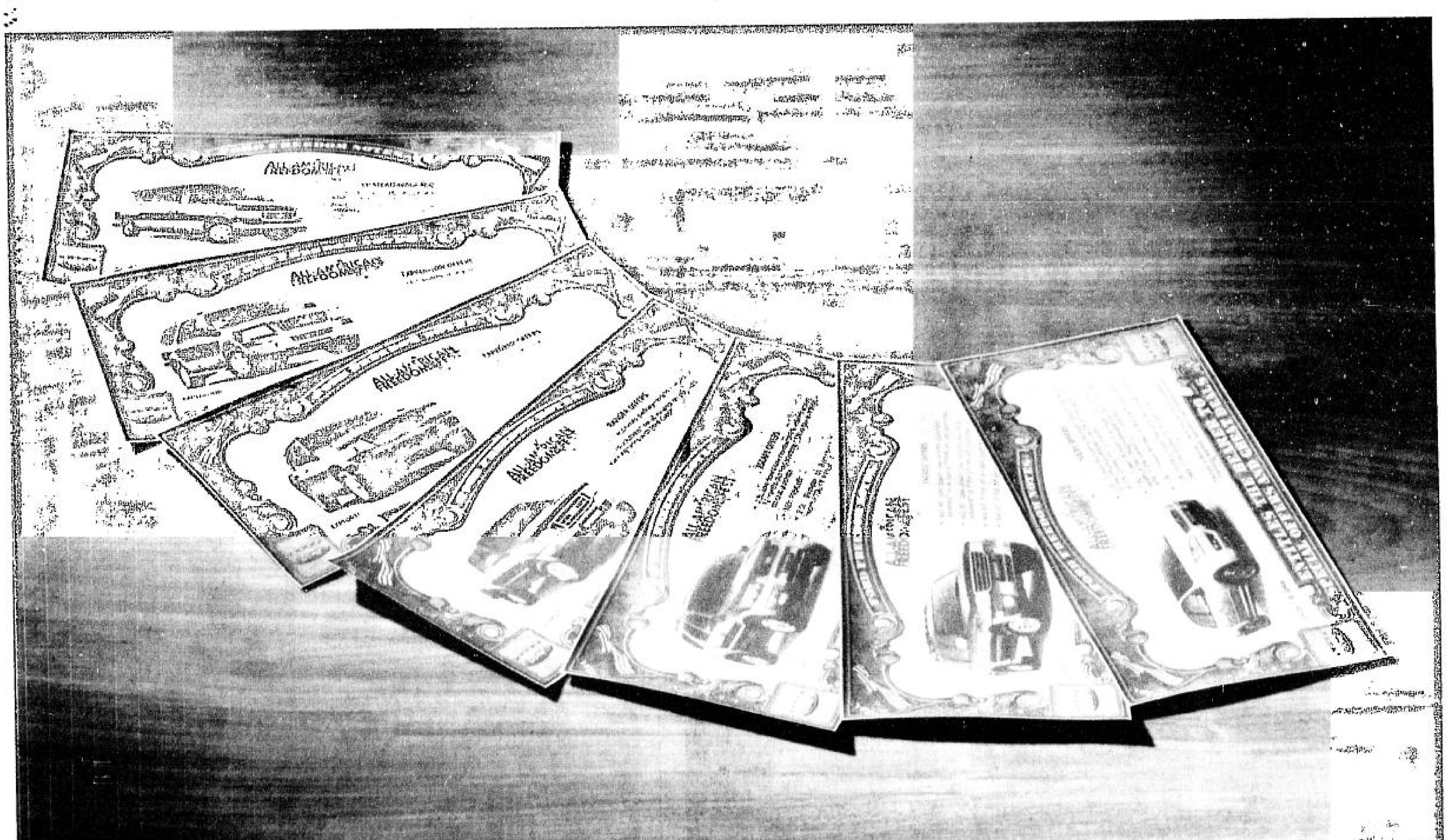
WALLACE: No longer a Piston AP

# Top shuttlers start JVC bids

TOP SEED LLOYD ESCOSES BATTLES Owen Lopez as the country's premier players step up their bid in the quarterfinals of the P1 million JVC Open badminton Championships at the Glorietta Activity Center in Makati City.

Escoses plays in the first of four matches in the elite masters category at 1 p.m. Butuan Badminton Club's Ian Piencenaves, the 2003 champion, takes on Rodel Bartolome of Air Force/PLDT; Jaime Junio, also of the Air Force, clashes with Christopher Flores; and second seed Arolas Amahit of Army mixes it up with Battledore's Melvin Llanes.

The chase for the top P35,000 purse in the ladies side also heats up with Irene Chiu of RTC Badminton playing Julie Milador of Whackers and Alma Ledesma of Golden Shuttle battling UST's Rose dela Cruz.



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# ENT INMENT

Editor **Emmie G. Velarde**

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# Diana Z reinvented

DIANA Zubiri

**By Bayani San Diego Jr.**

TURNING WHOLESOME TAKES A LOT OF GETting used to, according to Seiko sexy star Diana Zubiri.

The transformation of Diana, Rosemarie Joy Garcia in real life, started with the GMA 7 *fantaserye* "Encantadia" and continues in her new projects, Jose Javier Reyes' Seiko drama-comedy "I Wanna Be Happy" and two afternoon Kapuso shows, the *teleserye* "Now and Forever: Linlang" and the reality-inspired program "Ang Pagbabago."

For the first time, the star of such R-rated films as "Itlog," "Bakat" and "Liberated" is not shedding her clothes.

"I was glad that I didn't have to buy anything that showed my cleavage," she told INQUIRER Entertainment, referring to her wardrobe in "I Wanna Be Happy."

And she didn't have to go on a diet. "I could take it easy and eat whatever I wanted. In fact, I always brought snacks to the set."

But is local show biz ready for a straitlaced Diana?

The actress recalled how she had turned crimson after seeing the ultra sultry coffee-table book of Alfred Vargas—her "I Wanna Be Happy" co-star, "Pagbabago" co-host and rumored on-off boyfriend.

"I was shocked, especially by those photos that were too revealing," she said. "Actually, he sought my opinion. I told him they were artistic *naman*."

### Sizzling pictorials

Diana is no stranger to sizzling pictorials, of course.

She first drew controversy after stopping traffic on the Edsa-Shaw Boulevard flyover by posing in a two-piece swimsuit for a glossy men's magazine. She has come a long way since, and has been featured in the Indonesian, Singaporean, Thai and US editions of the same mag.

According to manager Jojo Gabinete, Diana has become a frequent visitor to Indonesia, where she graces shows for cellphone giant Nokia. Her first Indonesia visit coincided with the promo campaign for her erotic videoke CD "DeZire," under Sony-BMG.

"I heard it's been sold-out there," Diana said.

Her international pictorials are much tamer, she pointed out.

DIANA/ A2-4

# Gozon on 'Lukayo' suspension: We didn't violate decency laws

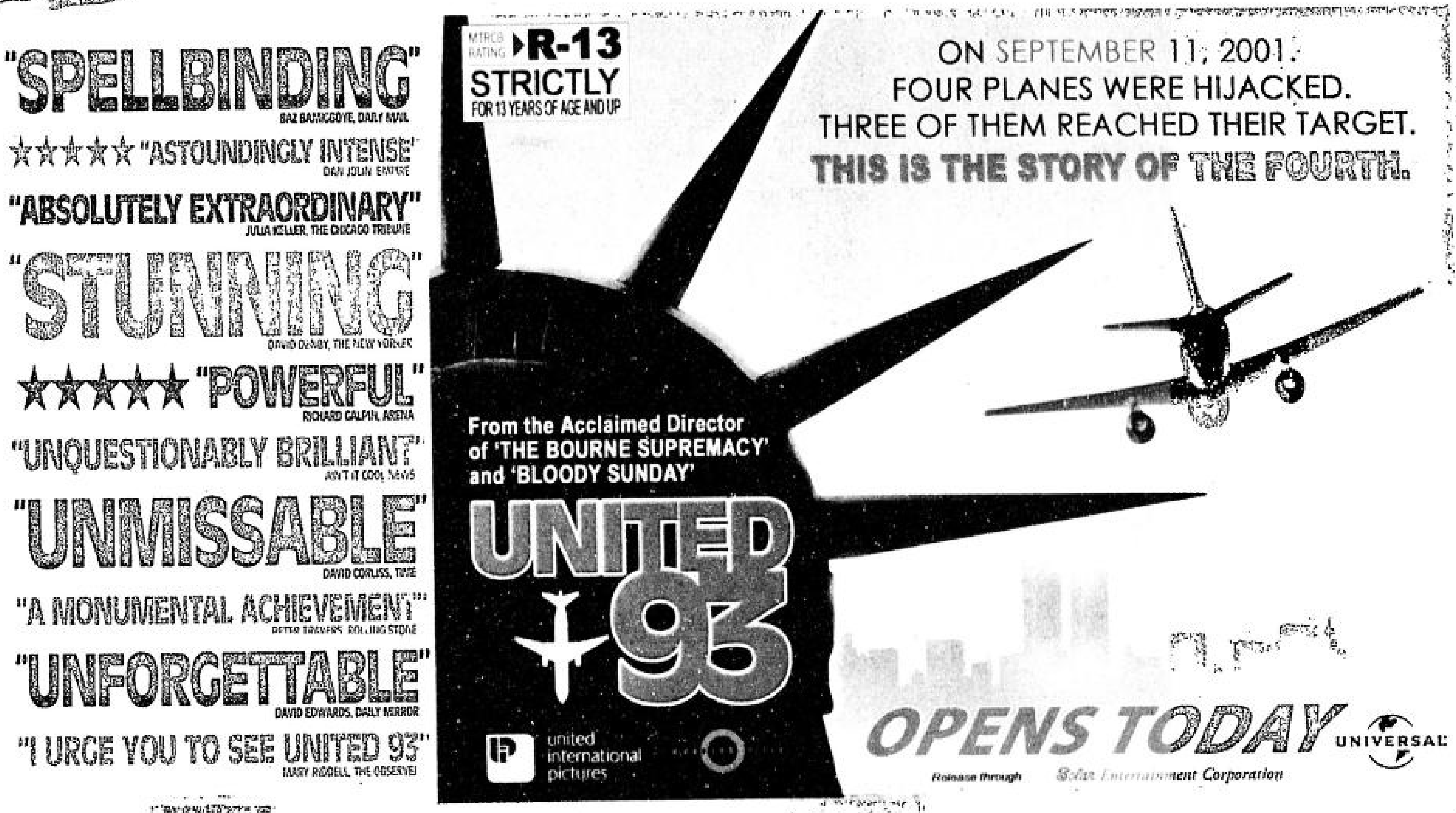
GMA 7 MAY PROTEST THE TWO-WEEK SUSpension by the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board of the program "I-Witness."

The suspension was brought about by the airing of a documentary titled "Lukayo: Hindi Ito Bastos," about a traditional fertility dance still performed in a farming community in Laguna. A small group of women farmers turns up at weddings, singing and dancing and wearing wooden phalluses tied around their waists.

The MTRCB said the suspension was to take place immediately. The Board's directive was dated June 22 and received by the TV station on June 28. This makes July 3 and 10 the effective suspension dates. But the station may seek a temporary restraining order or a motion for reconsideration.

Lawyer Felipe L. Gozon—network chair, president and CEO—speaking yesteday before print media representatives, said, "In the first place, there's a legal question there. We do not agree that the MTRCB decision is immediately executory. I'm a lawyer. [As far as I know], they do not have that special power, except in extraordinary cases. We have to clarify this legal [kink] by filing a motion for reconsideration."

GOZON/ A2-4



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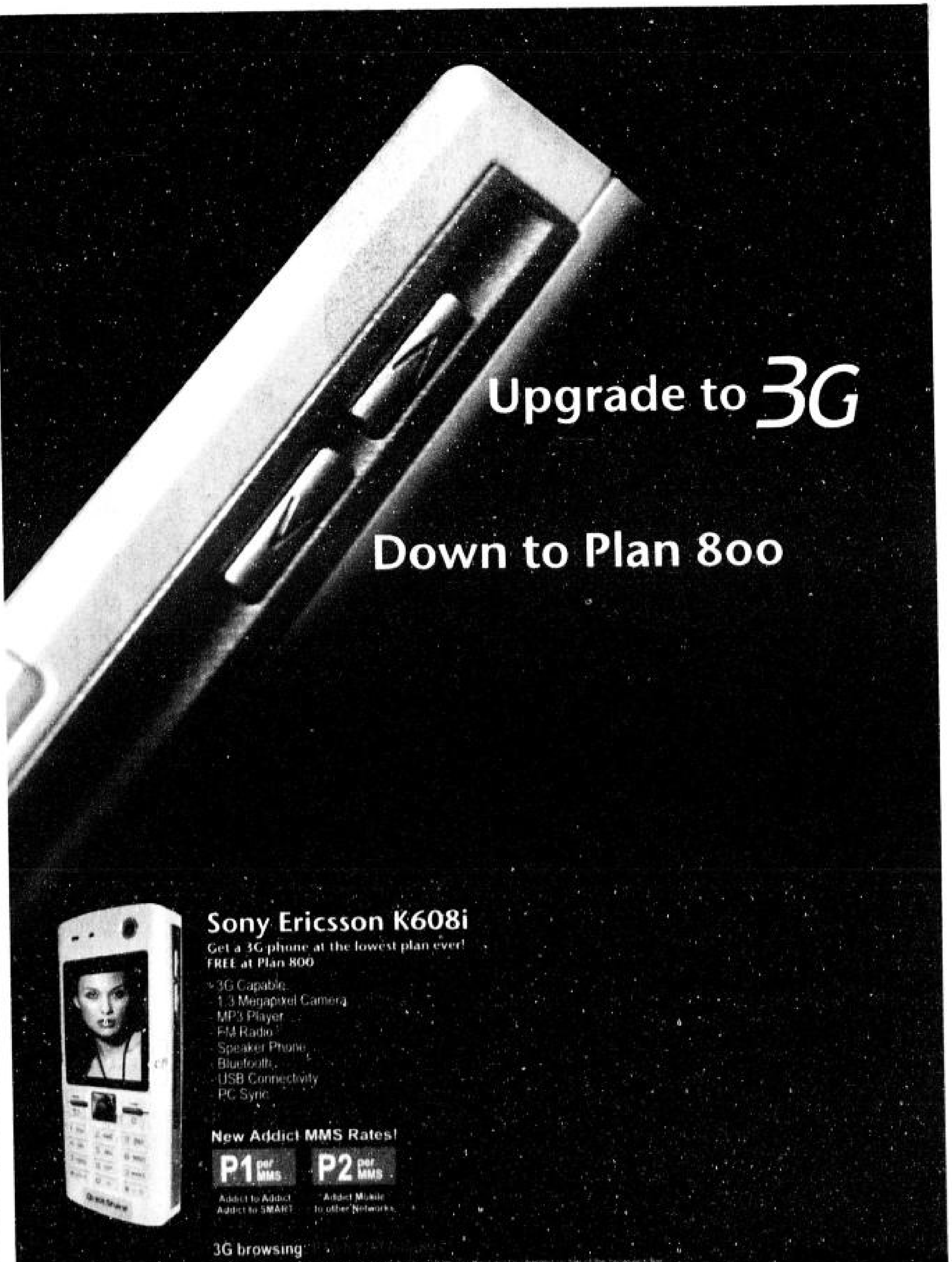

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# Producer airs disqualified entry's woes

By Marinel R. Cruz

"LAROMBATA" PRODUCER CHITS JIMENEZ told INQUIRER Entertainment that problems with animators caused her group's failure to submit a copy of the film to the 2nd Cinemalaya Independent Film Festival in time for the May 30 deadline.

The movie has been dropped from the roster of the festival, set July 17 to 23.

"We had problems with animators at the very start of the project," said Jimenez. "We were delayed for weeks because of that. We can produce a copy of the film, but we don't want to submit anything below our own standards."

## One of nine

"Larombata," a fully animated film by Khavn dela Cruz, was one of the nine finalists in the full-length feature category. But on July 1, festival monitoring group chair Robbie Tan announced its disqualification.

Tan earlier said the organizational committee would meet today to determine what to do with the portion of the P500,000 seed grant that Cinemalaya had already given Dela Cruz.

"Larombata" is the fantastic story of Kulas, a boy who runs away from home and ends up in the kingdom of lost toys, the world of *Larombata*. Kulas must save *Larombata* by rescuing the *diwata* of the kingdom from the clutches of the evil *aswang*.

In an e-mail to INQUIRER Entertainment on Saturday, Dela Cruz said "Larombata" was inspired by former child wonder Niño Muhlach's movies in the '70s. Muhlach was to lend his voice to lead character Kulas.

## First out

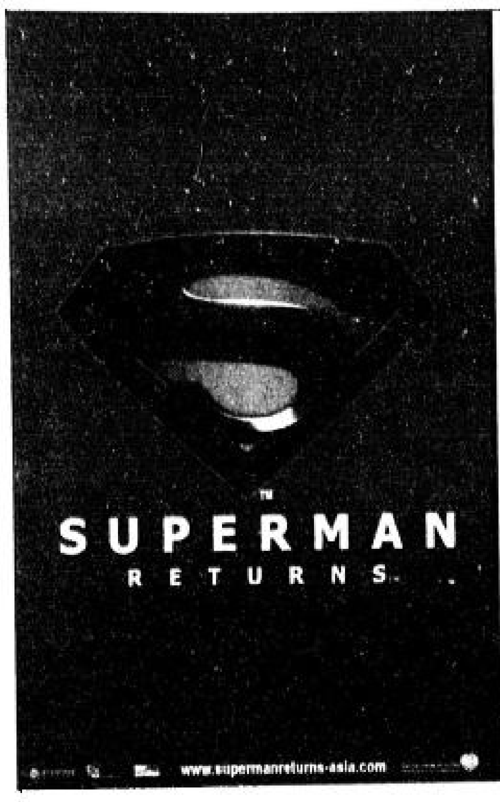
Earlier, the festival's organizational committee barred Jon Lazam's "Mga Anino sa Apuhap" from competing, for failure to complete the necessary requirements.

"I understand Cinemalaya's situation," Jimenez said. "As an events organizer myself, I know that everything should be ready at least two weeks prior," Jimenez said. "That's why we didn't contest [the decision]."

According to Jimenez, the first animation company hired by her group suddenly closed down. "It took weeks to find another," she said, "[and] we disagreed over how the animation should be done."

Jimenez said she was currently coordinating with a group of Cebu-based animators. "If Cinemalaya would let us, we still want to go ahead with the film and exhibit it in the near future," she said. "*Sayang naman*. This is a really good material."

Dela Cruz, who is arriving from Rome on July 25, said his group needed at least three more weeks to complete the animation "to meet our aesthetic standard."



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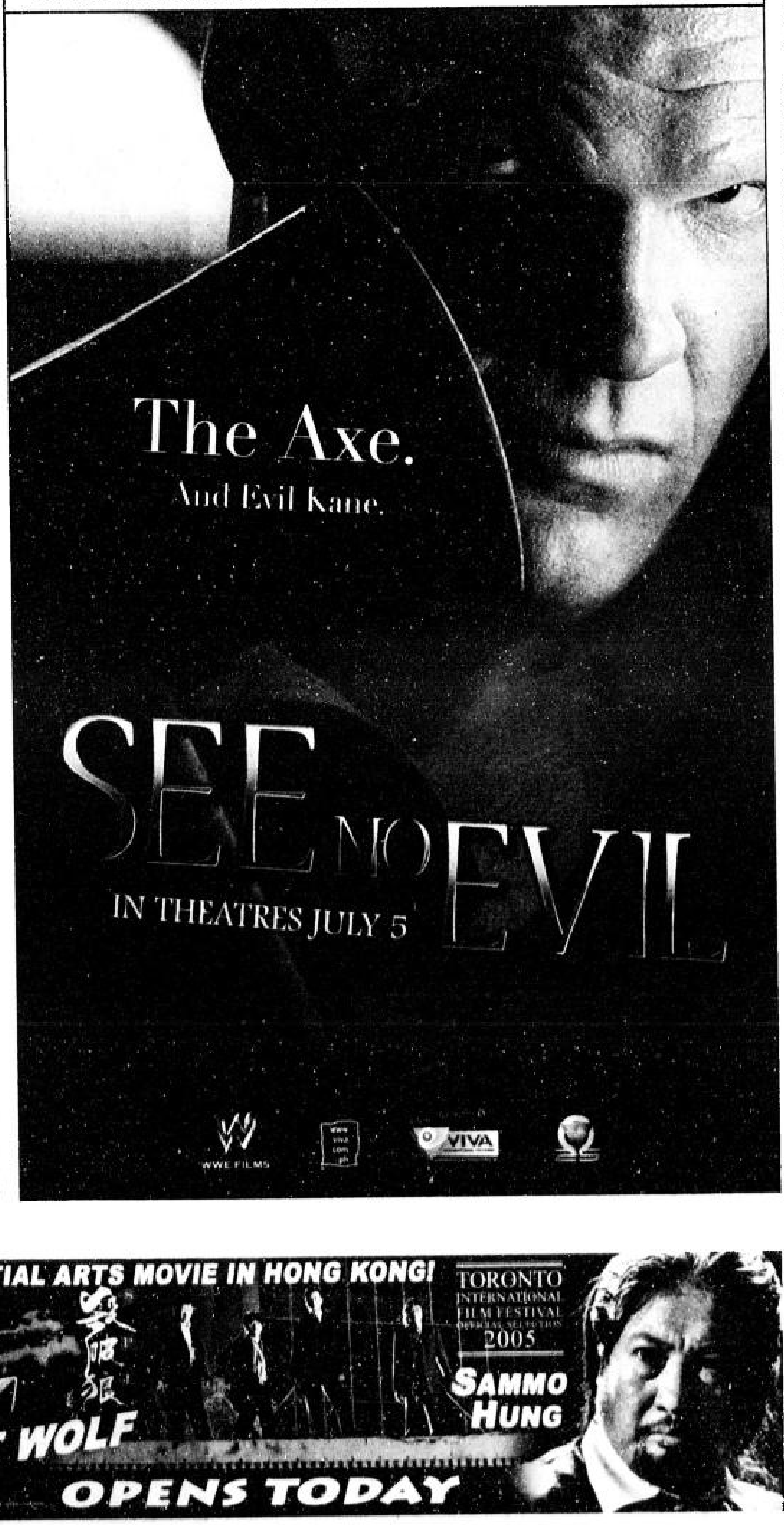

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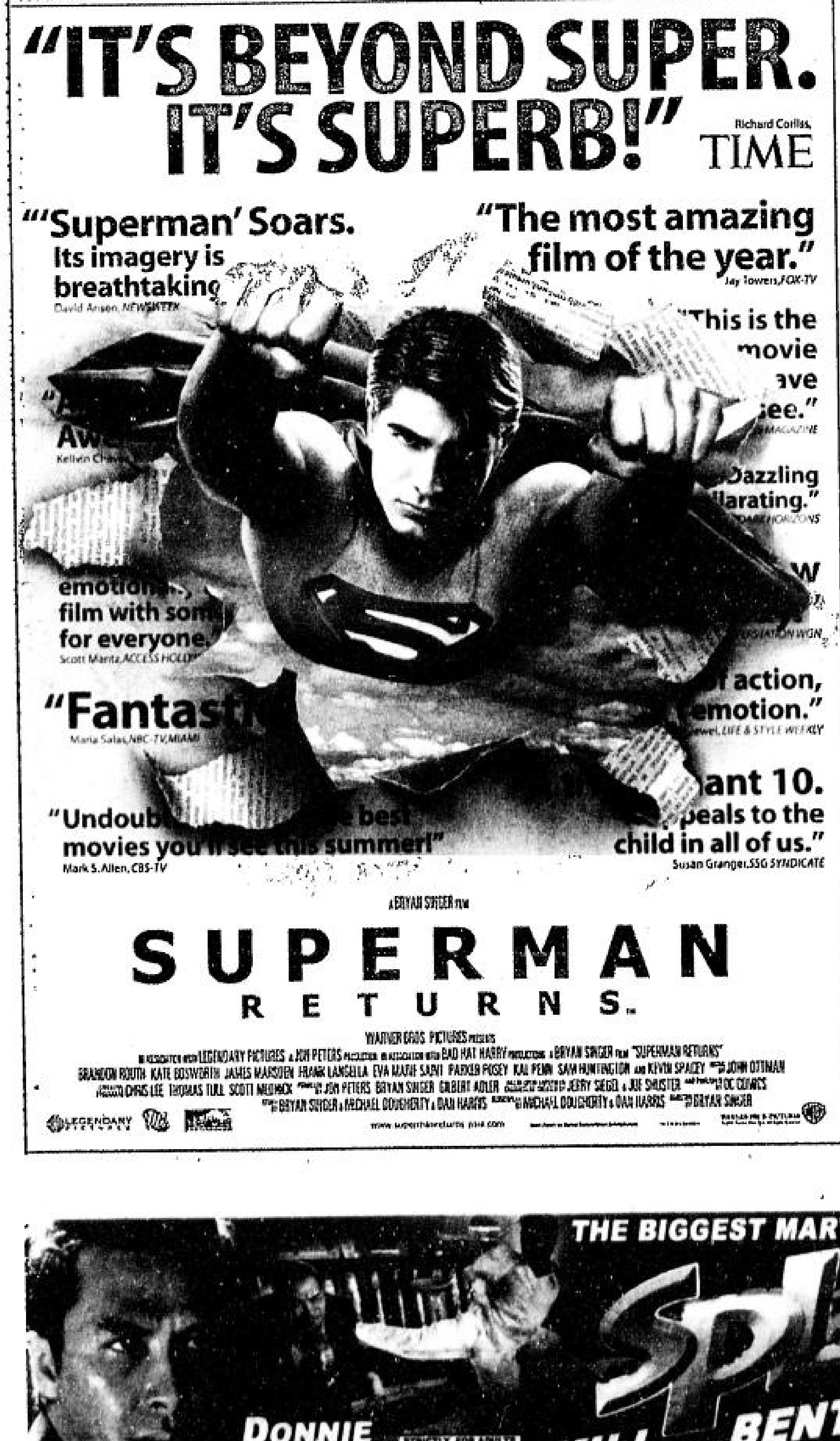

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## United 93

Stars Lewis Alsamari, JJ Johnson, Trish Gates, Daniel Sauli

**Directed by Paul Greengrass**

Acclaimed at the Cannes and Tribeca film festivals, this true-life account centers on the fourth hijacked plane in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Interviews and anecdotes from the victims' relatives are pieced together, showing that the plane's passengers fought back.

Sean Burns of the Philadelphia Weekly hails it as "a landmark… heroes presented as regular folks. The movie is as raw as an exposed nerve."

David Denby of The New Yorker congratulates the director for using "real flight attendants, air controllers and pilots [mixing] them with unknown actors… It's tightly wrapped, minutely drawn and, no matter how frightening, superbly precise."

## See No Evil

Stars Kane, Christine Vidal, Michael J. Pagan, Tiffany Lamb

**Directed by Gregory Dark**

A brilliant concept in exploitative entertainment: slasher flick combined with professional wrestling. The 7-foot-tall, 300-pound wrestler Kane is cast as Jacob Goodnight, Henchman from Hell.

Felix Vasquez Jr. of Film Threat complains: "A ridiculously messy Z-grade film... with no rhyme or reason."

V.A. Musetto of the New York Post rants: "[Kane] has all the acting skills of a fire hydrant."

## Lovewrecked

Stars Amanda Bynes, Chris Carmack, Jonathan Bennett, Jamie-Lynn DiScala

**Directed by Randal Kleiser**

Think "Swept Away" for teens. Nickelodeon princess Bynes plays a fan who gets stranded on a deserted beach with her rock star-idol (Carmack)... actually, they are just on the opposite side of a tropical island-resort.

## SPL: Kill the Bent Wolf

Stars Sammo Hung, Donnie Yen, Simon Yam

**Directed by Wilson Yip**

An official selection at the 2005 Toronto International Film Festival, this high-concept action flick takes place in a "somewhat-comedic, hyper-realistic version [of Hong Kong] brooding and awash with menace." Noble yet shadowy cops (led by Yam) are terrorized by a sadistic gangster (Hung).

Lee Alon of associatedcontent.com is glad that the film "doesn't shy away from all things that have traditionally made HK an excellent source of frenetic action nutrients."

Mark Pollard of kungfucinema.com raves over "gritty martial arts action that pits some of the genre's finest screen fighters."

Twitchfilm.net concurs: "Intense and powerful."

SEE NO EVIL

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| JULY 6,2006 | PRIME COUNCIL | 9.00PM |
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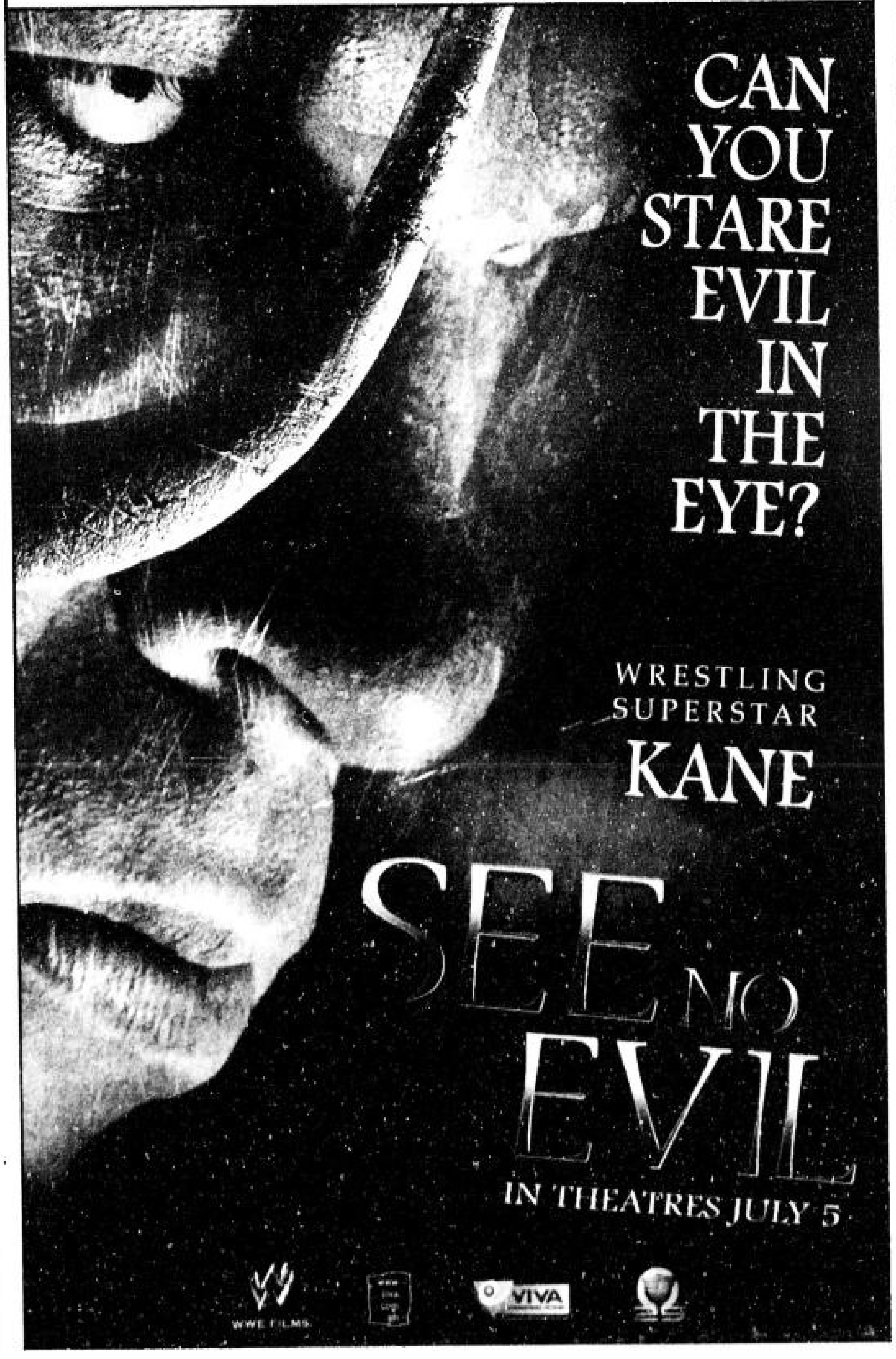

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4 SEE NO EVIL
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7 SPL
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9 LAKE HOUSE
SCARY MOVIE 4
10 THE NUN

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2 SPL
3 SUPERMAN RETURNS
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5 SUPERMAN RETURNS
6 LOVE WRECKED
7 UNITED 93

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2 SUPERMAN RETURNS
3 SEE NO EVIL
4 SPL
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6 LOVE WRECKED
7 SCARY MOVIE 4
8 THE NUN

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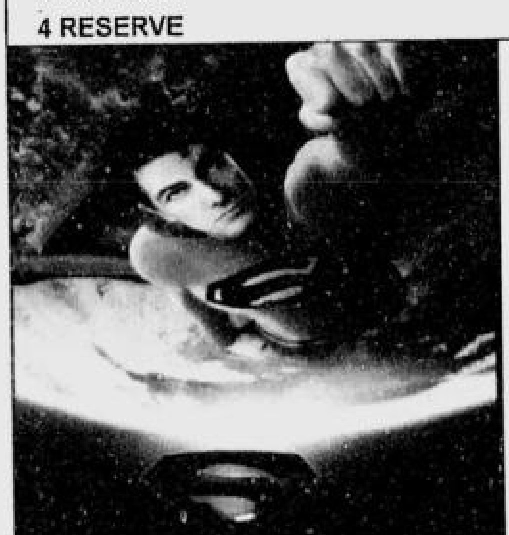

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4 GARFIELD 2

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3 THE NUN
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Where does Clark Kent work?
Who is Superman's love interest?

M. Clark Kent
A. Daily Planet
P. The Sun
S. Krypton
E. Green Kryptonite
R. Lead
U. Kal-El
N. Lois Lane

How to join? E-mail you answers together with your name, address, age and contact number to movieaddicts_smcinema@yahoo.com or send this page together with your particulars at your nearest SM Cinema branch. All answers must be correct in order to qualify. Multiple entries received will only be counted as a single entry. Deadline for submission of entries is on July 12, 2006.

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LAKE HOUSE
SUPERMAN RETURNS
UNITED 93
THE NUN
FAST AND FURIOUS 3

THE PODIUM
CINEMA 1
SUPERMAN RETURNS
CINEMA 2
LOVEWRECKED

SM NORTH EDSA
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UNITED 93
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THE NUN
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SCARY MOVIE 4
LOVEWRECKED
SUPERMAN RETURNS
UNITED 93
FAST AND FURIOUS 3
LAKE HOUSE
THE NUN
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SUPERMAN RETURNS
THE OMEN
XMEN III

SM CITY SOUTHMALL
SUPERMAN RETURNS
LOVEWRECKED
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
UNITED 93
FAST AND FURIOUS 3
THE NUN
SCARY MOVIE 4
KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
SUPERMAN RETURNS
KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO
SCARY MOVIE 4
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
LOVEWRECKED
SUPERMAN RETURNS
FAST AND FURIOUS 3
SUPERMAN RETURNS
LAKE HOUSE
THE NUN
UNITED 93

SM CITY DASMARIÑAS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
AMERICAN HAUNTING
SUPERMAN RETURNS

SM CITY STA. MESA
SUPERMAN RETURNS
LOVEWRECKED
SUPERMAN RETURNS
FAST AND FURIOUS 3
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SCARY MOVIE 4
LAKE HOUSE
PACQUIAO THE MOVIE
THE NUN
KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO

SM CITY MANILA
THE OMEN
FAST AND FURIOUS 3
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
LOVEWRECKED
SUPERMAN RETURNS
UNITED 93
AMERICAN HAUNTING
THE NUN
SCARY MOVIE 4
LAKE HOUSE
KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO

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SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SCARY MOVIE 4
FAST AND FURIOUS 3
LAKE HOUSE
LOVEWRECKED

SM SUPERCENTER VALENZUELA
SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
LOVEWRECKED
UNITED 93

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SUPERMAN RETURNS
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INSIDE MAN
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TAKE THE LEAD

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SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
AMERICAN HAUNTING
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SUPERMAN RETURNS
SUPERMAN RETURNS
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SILENT HILL
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SUPERMAN RETURNS

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SUPERMAN RETURNS
LAKE HOUSE
INSIDE MAN
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AMERICAN HAUNTING
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FAST AND FURIOUS

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GARFIELD 2
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SUPERMAN RETURN

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FOR MORE INFORMATION ON MOVIE LISTING, MTRCB RATING, SCREENING SCHEDULES AND THE LATEST HAPPENINGS AT SM CINEMA

# Diana Z …

From page A2-1

"For instance, in Indonesia—a conservative [and predominantly Muslim] country—my pictures are retouched."

Asked about the supposed "love triangle" linking her, Alfred and teen star LJ Reyes, she said: "It's not like I can tell Alfred what to do. We make our own decisions."

### Third sexiest

Doesn't it bother her that he is allegedly pursuing a much younger girl?

"I'm also young," she quipped.

Her manager pointed out that Diana was No. 3 in a men's magazine poll on the 100 sexiest Pinays, and that her supposed rival is nowhere near the Top 10.

That made Diana chuckle. But she said, "I don't want to be compared to her."

# Gozon on …

From page A2-1

He insisted: "The suspension of 'I-Witness' is not warranted. We do not agree that we aired something that violated laws on decency, or something that might be considered immoral. We believed we were educating [viewers] by broadcasting something that is part of [Laguna's] cultural history."

"Lukayo" was not "not blatantly and patently sexual in orientation," Gozon added. As such, he said, it couldn't have run against anti-pornography laws, "which seek out material that merely arouses prurient interests."

Earlier, in a phone interview with Inquirer Entertainment, MTRCB chair Marissa Laguardia recounted that, during an adujication meeting on June 6, one network officer "admitted that she was initially offended by what she saw… [and only] appreciated the documentary when the [cultural aspect] was explained to her."

### Who, me?

Laguardia identified the GMA 7 official as Nessa Valdellon, VP for Public Affairs and "I-Witness" program manager. The censors chief said Valdellon's "admission" was proof that the "program had objectionable content… unfortunately, not all viewers could have the tradition explained to them."

Valdellon sent Inquirer a text message on Sunday denying that. "As program manager ... I would never have allowed the documentary to air if I had doubts about its content," she said. "I was in full support of documenting 'Lukayo' from the beginning ... up to the final preview."

As for the GMA 7 crew not being allowed to cover the Manny-Paquiao-Oscar Larios boxing match—sponsored by rival network ABS-CBN—at the Araneta Coliseum on Sunday, Gozon told the newsmen's gathering on Monday: "We can't do anything... [ABS-CBN] organized and promoted that. It would have been improper to insist."

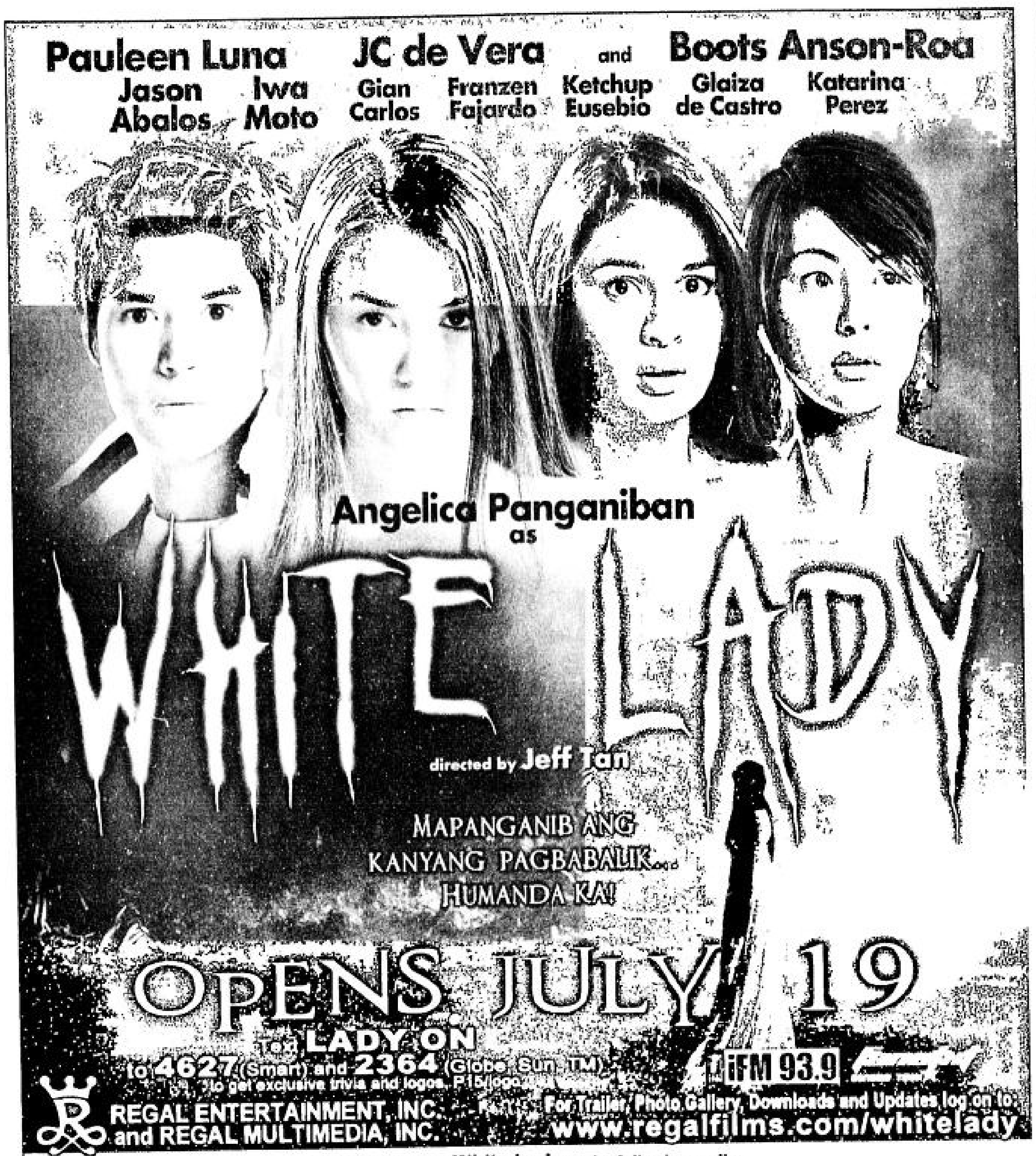
## DID YOU KNOW...

Jeffrey Jeturian's "Kubrador (The Bet Collector)" got a rave review from the International Federation of Film Critics (Fipresci) and won the International Critics Prize, INQUIRER Entertainment learned on Sunday.

"Kubrador" won by a unanimous vote, according to Josabeth 'Joji" Alonso of MLR Films, which produced the movie. Alonso, Jeturian and "Kubrador" lead actress Gina Pareño are in Russia for this year's Moscow International Film Festival.

The jury members were Daira Abolina of Latvia; Sheila Johnston, UK; Claire Clouzot, France; Larisa Malyukova, Russia; and Charles Stephane Roy, Canada.

*Marinel R. Cruz*


Pauleen Luna
JC de Vera
and
Boots Anson-Roa
Jason Abalos
Iwa Moto
Gian Carlos
Franzen Fajardo
Ketchup Eusebio
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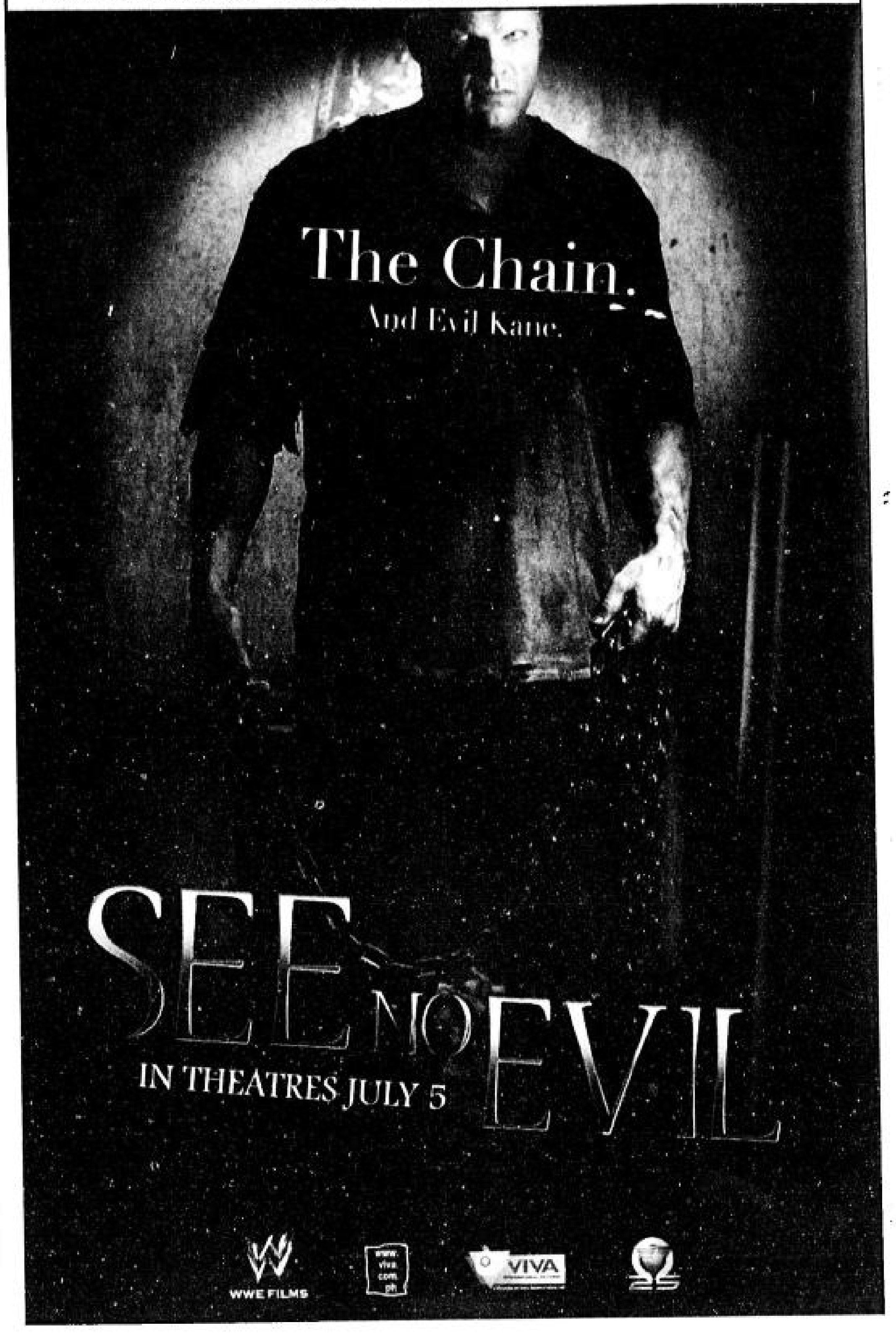
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| Cinema | | | | | |
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| G4 GLORIETTA 4 | 1 SUPERMAN RETURNS | 2 SUPERMAN RETURNS | 3 THX SUPERMAN RETURNS GUARANTEED SEATS | | |
| | 4 THE FAST & THE FURIOUS: TOKYO DRIFT | 5 SEE NO EVIL | 6 LOVEWRECKED | 7 UNITED 93 | |
| GB1 GREENBELT 1 | 1 UNITED 93 | 2 SUPERMAN RETURNS | | | |
| GB3 GREENBELT 3 | 1 THX SUPERMAN RETURNS GUARANTEED SEATS | 2 THX SUPERMAN RETURNS GUARANTEED SEATS | | | |
| | 3 LOVEWRECKED GUARANTEED SEATS | 4 UNITED 93 GUARANTEED SEATS | 5 SUPERMAN RETURNS 12:15, 3:30, 6:45, 10:00 GUARANTEED SEATS | | |
| ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER | 1 THX SUPERMAN RETURNS | 2 LOVEWRECKED | | | |
| | 3 SUPERMAN RETURNS | 4 SEE NO EVIL | 5 UNITED 93 | | |
| ACC AYALA CENTER CEBU | 1 SUPERMAN RETURNS | 2 SUPERMAN RETURNS | 3 INSIDE MAN | 4 SEE NO EVIL | |
| M2 MARKET! MARKET! | 1 SUPERMAN RETURNS | 2 SUPERMAN RETURNS | | | |
| | 3 SEE NO EVIL | 4 LOVEWRECKED | 5 UNITED 93 | | |

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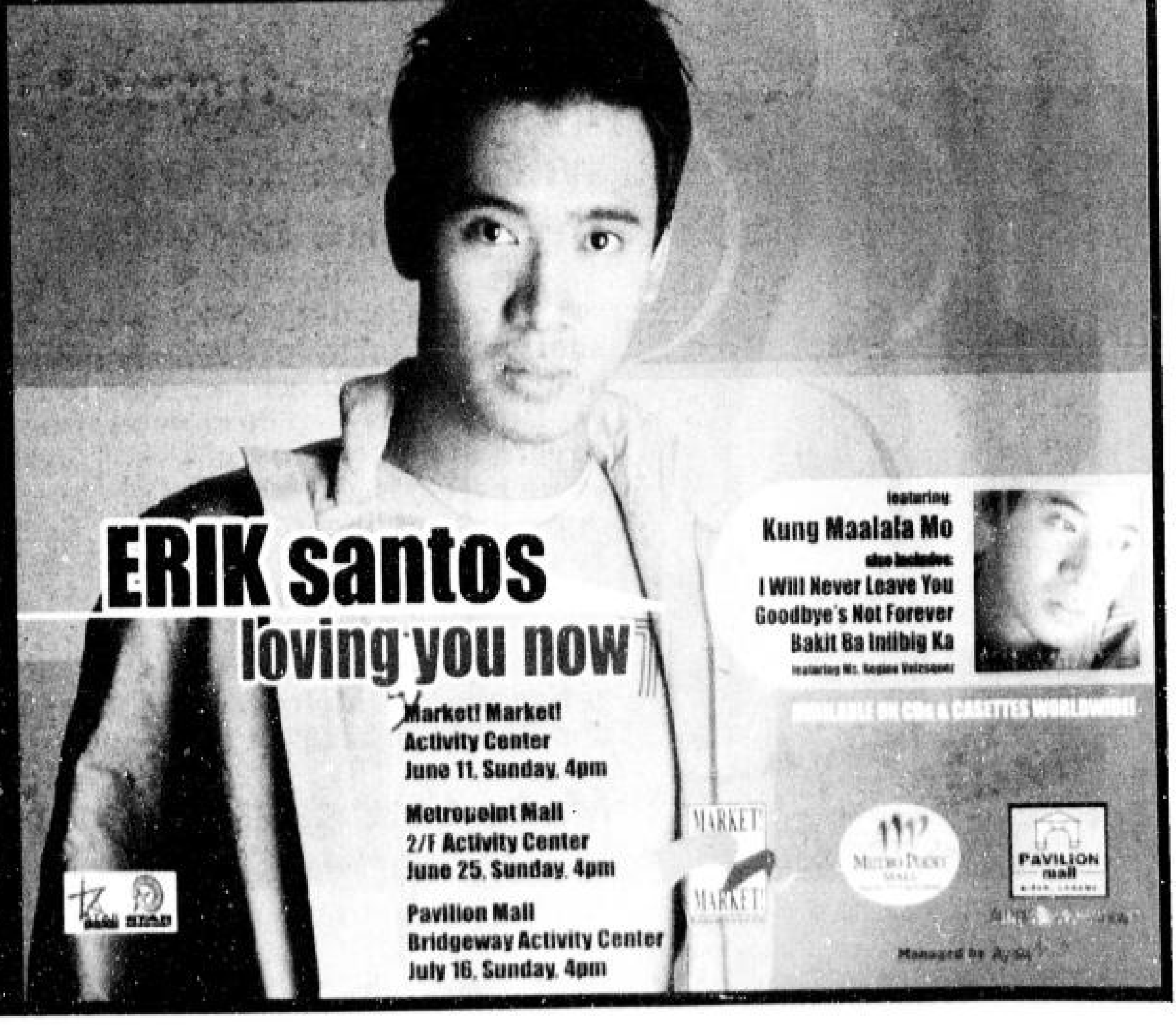
OPENS JULY 12 AT Ayala Malls CINEMAS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Managed by Ayala

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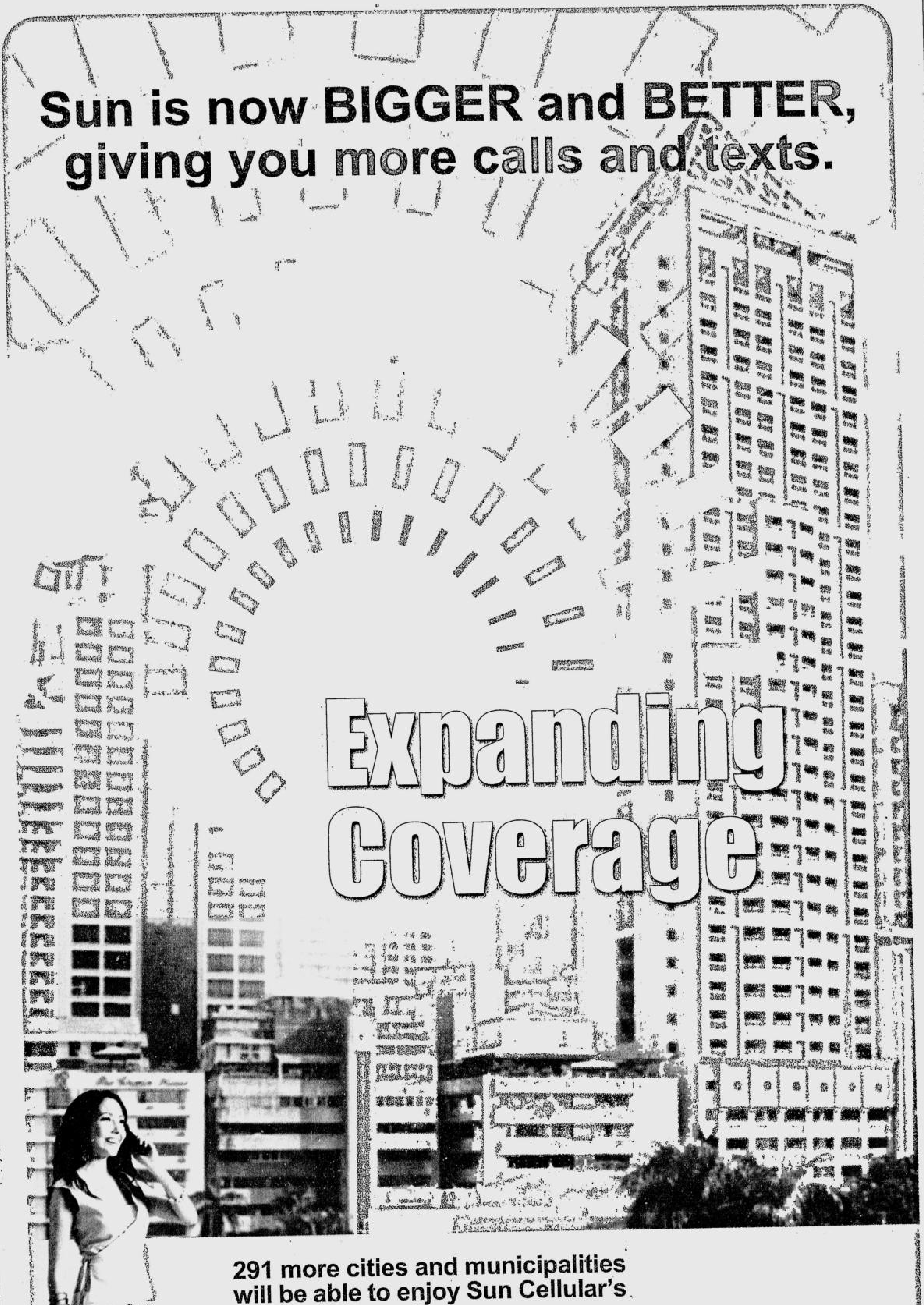

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# WB prods gov't on curbing corruption

## Notes high perception of bad governance at national level

By Doris C. Dumlao

AFTER THE REMARKABLE FISCAL TURNAROUND THAT EARNED back global investor confidence, the Philippines' immediate and biggest hurdle would be to address the chronic problem of corruption, the World Bank said yesterday.

In an interview, World Bank country director Joachim von Amsberg said the the national government has successfully achieved the task of front-loading fiscal adjustments equivalent to more than 3 percent of gross domestic product over the last two years—similar to the progress made by countries like Brazil and Turkey.

"This has changed the perception by the market and has made the Philippines more resilient to the kind of market turbulence like what we're seeing now," Amsberg said.

But as the country, earlier tagged by many as the sick man of Asia, has sprung back on the fiscal front, the challenge is to improve the quality of public expenditure and bring more social services to the people.

"If you think about fiscal quality and quantity, you'd think of a patient who's coming to a

WB/ B2

## Peso hits 5-week high of 52.66:$1

THE PESO YESTERDAY RALLIED FOR THE fourth straight day to close at a five-week high of 52.66 against the dollar, boosted by bullish currency and stock markets across the region as well as inflows from overseas Filipino workers.

The local currency opened at the intra-day low of 52.91 and hit an intra-day high of 52.64 before closing at 52.66, its strongest finish since ending at 52.59 on May 30 this year.

The peso gained 32 centavos from Monday's closing of 52.98 to $1, moving alongside the sharp appreciation of the Thai baht and the Indonesian rupiah.

The peso, battered over the last two months by a selldown on emerging market assets due to uncertainties in US interest rates, has recovered swiftly after the US Federal Reserve hinted last week that it would pause its monetary tightening soon.

PESO/ B2

IN THIS ISSUE

MVP sharpens the saw /B3

PNOC gets P375M in dividends /B2

## Citibank, Citisec fight over 'citi' trademark rights

By Elizabeth L. Sanchez

WITH A MAIDEN STOCK OFfering scheduled this month, online stockbroker CitisecOnline.com is suddenly embroiled in a trademark infringement case lodged by American financial giant Citigroup Inc. and its banking subsidiary, Citibank N.A.

Citigroup filed last Friday a complaint with the Makati Regional Trial Court claiming that the use of the names bearing "citi" by CitisecOnline and Citisecurities Inc. constituted a breach of trademark rights over its registered "Citi" marks, which included, among others, "citibank," "citicard," "citicorp," "citidirect," "citifinancial," "citigroup," "citiphone" and "citiservice."

Citigroup has urged the court to require CitisecOnline and Citisecurities to stop using their names or any other trademark bearing the word "citi." Citigroup also wanted the two firms to be liable for damages.

However, CitisecOnline has defended its trademark, arguing that it has received the go-ahead of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) for the use of such corporate name.

In the case of Citisecurities, it has used the name for 20 years, while CitisecOnline has been in the business for six years. It added that there were more than 350 companies registered with the SEC bearing corporate names beginning with "citi."

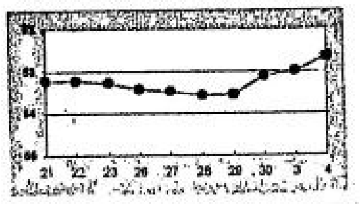
CitisecOnline corporate secretary Caesar Guerzon said in a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE) yesterday that "Citisec," "CitisecOnline" or "Citisecurities" were not deceptively similar to the Citigroup's registered trademarks.

CitisecOnline and Citisecurities are separate companies. CitisecOnline has a broker's li-

CITIBANK/ B3

### INDICATORS

### CURRENCIES



JUNE JULY

**PESO-DOLLAR RATE**

P 52.66 = $1

As of 5 p.m., July 4, 2006

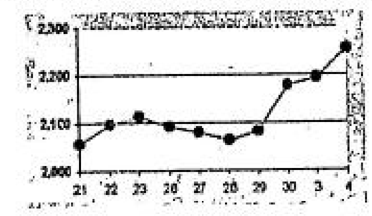
¥ 114.60 = $1

As of 5 p.m., July 4, 2006

GOLD: $622.50-623.00

per ounce Hong Kong, July 4, 2006

### STOCK MARKET



(See stock market report on Page B2)

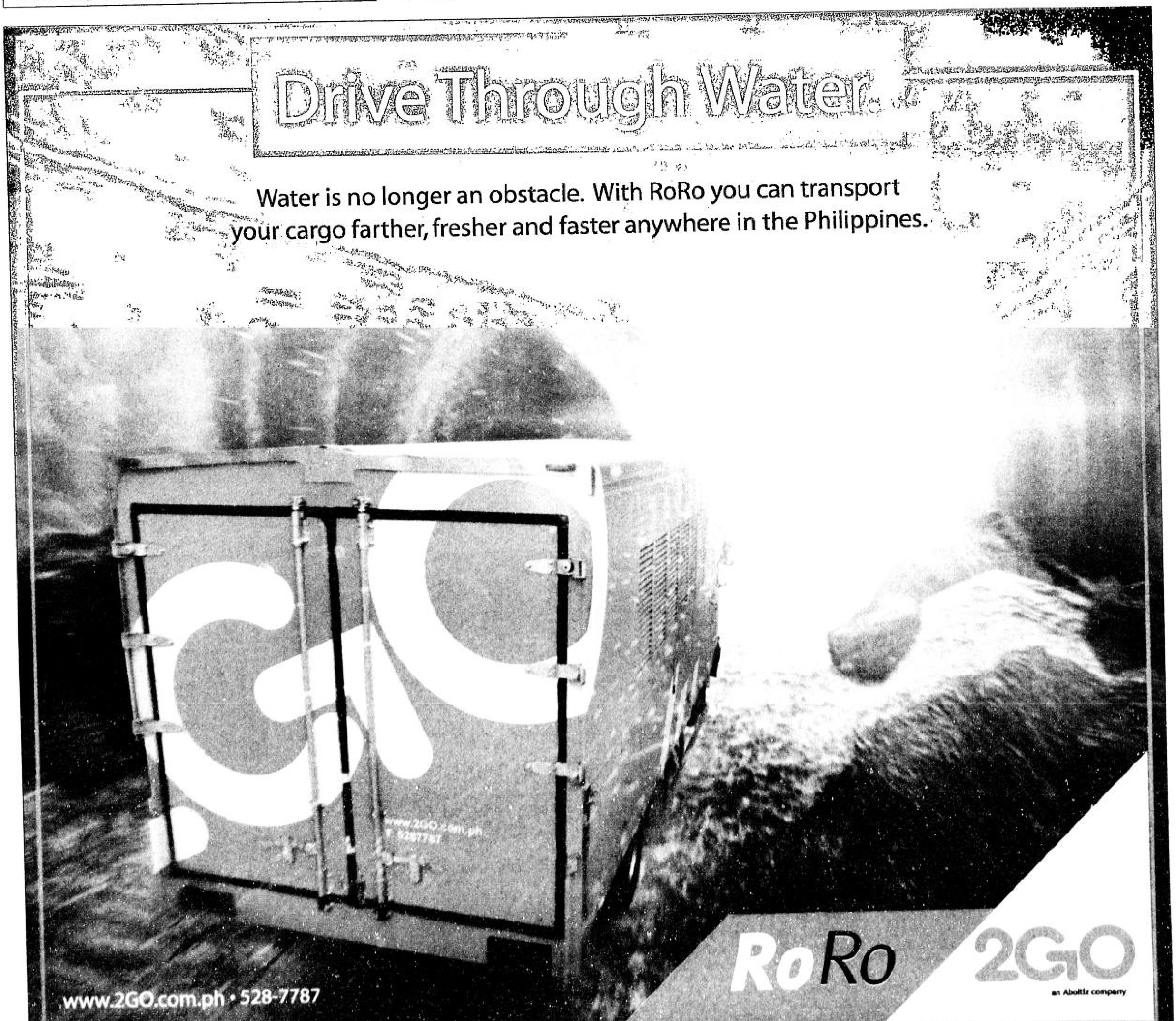
## Stocks surge 2.8%

STOCKS ROSE SHARPLY YESterday for the fourth consecutive session as concerns over high interest rates continued to ebb.

The peso's appreciation against the US dollar and gains on Wall Street overnight also provided the impetus for a rally, traders said.

The benchmark Philippine Stock Exchange

STOCKS/ B3



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# PNOC gets ₱375M in dividends

## Total Petron remittance from 1994 to 2005 reached ₱6B

**By Abigail L. Ho**

FOLLOWING A YEAR OF STRONG GROWTH, industry leader Petron Corp. on Monday remitted to Philippine National Oil Co., which held a 40-percent stake in the oil firm, P375 million in dividends.

This brought Petron's total dividend payout to PNOC to P6 billion since the oil company was privatized in 1994.

Various operational improvements and robust exports boosted Petron's net income to P6.04 billion in 2005, its best showing in 10 years.

The oil firm said its 2005 net income eclipsed the P4.2-billion profit posted in 1996, before the downstream oil industry was deregulated.

The P6.04-billion profit was also almost twice the refiner's 2004 net income of P3.42 billion.

Total sales revenue in 2005 grew 29.8 percent to P191.49 billion from P147.42 billion in the previous year.

Export volume jumped 45.3 percent to 7.96 million barrels last year from 5.48 million barrels in 2004.

In a statement issued yesterday, Petron chair Nicasio Alcantara related how the oil refiner, through strategic initiatives and investments over the past few years, had managed to consistently register good revenues and profits.

From a net income of P1.2 billion in 2001, the oil firm's profit grew fivefold to more than P6 billion last year. It also dominated the local oil industry with a market share of almost 40 percent, he said.

More than a year ago, Petron commissioned $100 million worth of facilities that enabled it to produce Clean Air Act-compliant fuels in the country.

The oil refiner has also allotted $300 million to construct additional refineries that would allow it to extract high-value petrochemical byproducts. These would be commissioned in 2008.

"We have always aimed at increasing shareholder value by pursuing business initiatives that will sustain long-term growth," Alcantara said.

Apart from PNOC, Saudi Aramco also owns a 40-percent stake in Petron. The remaining 20 percent is held by the public.

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VER DIVIDE
06

**PRESIDENT** Macapagal-Arroyo watches as Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Governor Amando Tetangco turns over to Finance Secretary Margarito Teves a check for P3.6 billion representing the BSP's dividends payment to the national government for 2005. The turnover ceremony was held during the BSP's 13th anniversary celebration. LYN RILLON

# BPI Family's 'unique' product seen to encourage more savers

**By Elizabeth L. Sanchez**

BPI FAMILY SAVINGS BANK YESTERDAY launched a unique savings account that was expected to raise about P1 billion a year in deposits for the country's largest thrift bank, BPI Family president Alfonso Salcedo Jr. said yesterday.

Dubbed as the "Get Started" savings account, the product was aimed at encouraging Filipinos to save and raising the savings rate in the country. The product offers depositors access to life insurance at relatively lower rates.

Salcedo said this was the first savings account in the country that offered life insurance coverage of up to five times the average daily balance of the savings account or up to P2 million in free life insurance coverage. To open a Get Started savings account, a client needs a minimum initial deposit of P5,000. For P10,000, the savings account starts earning interest of 0.75 percent. As the client increases his deposits with any BPI Family branch nationwide, the insurance coverage also expands.

BPI Family has tied up with Ayala Life for this product.

BPI Family is backed up by strong growth as net income rose by more than 28 percent in the first five months to P470 million, Salcedo said.

The bank's outstanding loans stood at P51 billion, P11 billion higher than the previous year. These, the bank said, consisted mostly of housing loans.

Loans to overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) have grown to about 51 percent of total new housing loans from 15 percent three years ago.

Parent Bank of the Philippine Islands earlier launched a new subsidiary that sought to carve a niche in the lucrative OFW market. BPI Direct Savings Bank was formed with a banking license distinct from that of BPI Family Bank in line with BPI's "Expat Pinoy" (BPInoy) program that addresses the needs of Filipinos working abroad. Capitalized at P700 million and with P1.5 billion in assets to date, the new bank seeks a market base of its own that will not compete with BPI and BPI Family Bank's operations, BPI Direct officials earlier said.

# *Telecom giant sets up broadband Internet for SC*

**By Daxim L. Lucas**

THE EFFICIENCY AND PRODUCTIVITY OF the country's legal system received a boost from a deal between Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. and the Supreme Court that sought to provide broadband Internet access to the local court system.

In an agreement, PLDT will provide its digital subscriber line (DSL) Internet to 400 sites all over Metro Manila to connect judges and their respective courts to the Supreme Court.

This measure was spearheaded by the high court in order to take advantage of technology in improving the performance of the country's legal system, Chief Justice Artemio Panganiban said in a statement.

"This addresses the need for Internet connectivity and the growing demand for access by the judges to the Court's e-Library and for the court clearance system," he said.

The system will also help in the facilitation and submission of reports to the Office of the Court of Appeals.

Chief Justice Panganiban added that PLDT's broadband access will help enhance the functions of the Supreme Court, which has supervisory power over all trial courts, the Court of Appeals, the Sandiganbayan and the Court of Tax Appeals.

The Supreme Court also shares supervisory power with the Department of Interior and Local Government over the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology.

PLDT corporate business group head Eric R. Alberto said the company is committed to help the Supreme Court in tapping technologies that will enhance its services and benefit people who conduct business with the courts.

"The Supreme Court's e-Library is just one potentially powerful tool in improving productivity," he said. "It facilitates the exchange of information like never before. PLDT BizDSL will definitely enhance that tool by providing high speed access to the e-Library as well as to the wealth of information over the Internet."

For her part, PLDT corporate business solutions head Nerissa S. Ramos also said broadband Internet is the way to go for government agencies which serve a large number of citizens.

"With the increasing demand for fast and efficient service from government by a continuously increasing number of Filipinos, technology plays a very important role," she said. "We aim to deliver the advantages of technology not only to businesses but also to the government."

# CebuPac adds flights to HK; PAL returns to Laoag

CEBU PACIFIC AIR INC. WILL INCREASE ITS flights to Hong Kong starting next week .

In a statement, Cebu Pacific said its Hong Kong service would be increased to 21 flights a week from 17 flights starting July 13.

The additional frequency will translate to a thrice a day Manila-Hong Kong service.

In the meantime, Philippine Airlines has announced the resumption of regular services to Laoag starting July 7, ending a nearly five-month absence of this service.

PAL suspended its flights to Laoag last Feb. 13 due to what it called "operational matters."

It now returns "with an upgraded service that offers the most frequencies, the largest capacity of 1,248 seats weekly both ways, convenient international connections and the only business-class service in the market," the airline said.

The flag carrier is likewise offering a promotional base fare of P568 for one-way, economy-class travel between Manila and Laoag to mark the resumption of service.

To enjoy this rate, reservation and ticketing must be done at least five days before departure. The fare excludes applicable surcharges and taxes.

*Daxim L. Lucas*

# Peso hits . . .

From page B1

Volume traded at the Philippine Dealing System also rose to $467 million yesterday from $265 million on Monday.

Marcelo Ayes, chief currency dealer at Equitable PCI Bank, said this was the correction the market had expected. He said the seasonal rise in demand for the greenback from importers during the third quarter has yet to happen, although it was possible that sourcing of these dollar requirements had been front-loaded in previous months.

The peso hit a three-and-a-half-year high of 50.88 last March, attracting demand from corporations with dollar requirements for foreign debt servicing and importation.

But Ayes said the dollar was bound for a correction as well, which meant that the peso's rally would likely hit a barrier at about 52.50:$1.

But if the rally would continue, he said the next target would be 52:$1.

"The peso will resume the uptrend seen at the start of the year because the country's fundamentals are even much better at this time. Barring any political disturbance, we might see a credit-rating (outlook) upgrade by the last quarter or the first quarter of 2006," Ayes said.

*Doris C. Dumlao*

# WB prods gov't . . .

From page B1

hospital heavily bleeding, which was the macro-fiscal situation two years ago. Of course you focus first on stopping the bleeding and saving the life of the patient but then when you've done that, the chronic issue such as corruption comes more on the forefront as what we're seeing now," von Amsberg said.

"From focusing on the immediate task of rescuing the bleeding body, the task is now more looking at chronic long-term issues such as corruption, which I think could be the next big issue that we'll back in the Philippines," he said.

He said that while the bank has moved toward lending programs directly financing vital expenditures such as health and education, these programs were built-in with certain anticorruption measures.

He said the paradox in the Philippines was that while it had laid out a public sector procurement framework, which was an international success story, the country was still struggling with high perception of corruption and bad governance at the national level.

"There are good measures but they haven't added up yet to the kind of aggregate impact that the perception on corruption is improving. That's why we do want to increase our support in that area," he said.

## PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

(As of July 4, 2006)

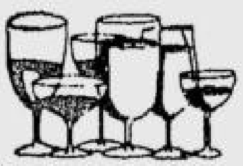
| STOCKS | OPEN | HIGH | LOW | CLOSE | VOLUME |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| FINANCIAL | | | | | |
| BANKS | | | | | |
| Asiatrust Dev. Bank Inc. | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 5.5 | 21,000 |
| Banco de Oro Univ. Bank | 31.5 | 32 | 31.5 | 32 | 509,000 |
| Bank of the Phil. Islands | 49 | 51 | 49 | 50.5 | 957,700 |
| Citystate Savings Bank | 20.5 | 20.5 | 20.5 | 20.5 | 300 |
| Export and Ind. Bank A | 0.39 | 0.41 | 0.39 | 0.4 | 8,200,000 |
| Equitable PCI Bank Inc. | 73 | 74 | 73 | 73.5 | 151,800 |
| International Exch. Bank | 41.5 | 41.5 | 41.5 | 41.5 | 4,000 |
| Metropolitan Bank & Trust | 35 | 36 | 35 | 35.5 | 1,232,900 |
| Philippine National Bank | 33 | 34 | 33 | 33.5 | 64,400 |
| Rizal Comm. Banking Corp. | 18 | 18.25 | 18 | 18.25 | 49,700 |
| Security Bank Corp. | 46 | 47.5 | 46 | 47 | 526,300 |
| Union Bank of the Phil. | 45 | 45 | 44.5 | 45 | 118,200 |
| OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS | | | | | |
| Bankard Inc. | 0.71 | 0.71 | 0.71 | 0.71 | 50,000 |
| Filipino Fund Inc. | 3.9 | 3.9 | 3.9 | 3.9 | 1,000 |
| First Metro Invest. Corp. | 31 | 31 | 31 | 31 | 10,000 |
| Manulife Financial Corp. | 1650 | 1660 | 1650 | 1660 | 16,530 |
| Pcl Leasing & Fin. Inc. | 0.99 | 0.99 | 0.99 | 0.99 | 30,000 |
| Sun Life Financial Inc. | 2070 | 2080 | 2070 | 2080 | 8,590 |
| Ivantage Corp. | 1.22 | 1.26 | 1.22 | 1.26 | 5,269,000 |
| INDUSTRIAL | | | | | |
| ELECTRICITY, ENERGY, POWER & WATER | | | | | |
| First Gen Corp. | 43 | 43 | 42.5 | 42.5 | 464,600 |
| First Phil Hldgs Corp. | 45 | 45.5 | 45 | 45 | 1,951,400 |
| Manila Electric Co. A | 14.5 | 14.5 | 14.5 | 14.5 | 36,300 |
| Manila Electric Co. B | 22 | 22.25 | 22 | 22.25 | 1,223,900 |
| Manila Water Co. Inc. | 7.3 | 7.6 | 7.3 | 7.6 | 8,994,000 |
| Petron Corp. | 3.9 | 3.9 | 3.8 | 3.85 | 3,761,000 |
| Trans-Asia Oil and Energy | 0.94 | 0.94 | 0.94 | 0.94 | 300,000 |
| FOOD, BEVERAGE & TOBACCO | | | | | |
| Cadp Group Corp. | 2.3 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 21,000 |
| Ginebra San Miguel Inc. | 23.25 | 23.25 | 23.25 | 23.25 | 5,000 |
| Jollibee Foods Corp. | 31 | 33 | 31 | 33 | 228,900 |
| Pancake House Inc. | 4.75 | 4.75 | 4.7 | 4.7 | 50,000 |
| Roxas Holdings Inc. | 2.65 | 2.7 | 2.6 | 2.65 | 1,020,000 |
| San Miguel Corp. A | 65.5 | 65.5 | 65 | 65.5 | 50,100 |
| San Miguel Corp. B | 71.5 | 71.5 | 71 | 71.5 | 100,200 |
| Universal Robina Corp. | 18.25 | 18.5 | 18.25 | 18.25 | 5,650,100 |
| Vitarich Corp. | 0.21 | 0.21 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 820,000 |
| CONSTRUCTION, INFRASTRUCTURE & ALLIED SERVICES | | | | | |
| Southeast Asian Cement | 0.27 | 0.27 | 0.27 | 0.27 | 1,560,000 |
| Engineering Equip. Inc. | 1.5 | 1.54 | 1.5 | 1.54 | 5,500,000 |
| Holcim Philippines Inc. | 4.5 | 4.6 | 4.5 | 4.5 | 488,000 |
| Republic Cement Corp. | 1.26 | 1.32 | 1.26 | 1.3 | 280,000 |
| CHEMICALS | | | | | |
| Mabuhay Vinyl Corp. | 0.62 | 0.62 | 0.62 | 0.62 | 10,000 |
| DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS | | | | | |
| Active Alliance Inc. | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 9,000 |
| Global Equities Inc. | 0.0725 | 0.0775 | 0.0725 | 0.0775 | 29,600,000 |
| Picop Resources Inc. | 0.0675 | 0.0675 | 0.065 | 0.065 | 400,000 |
| Stenlel Manufacturing | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 100,000 |
| HOLDING FIRMS | | | | | |
| Abacus Con Res & Hdg A | 0.007 | 0.007 | 0.0065 | 0.0065 | 8,000,000 |
| Ayala Corp. | 375 | 387.5 | 375 | 385 | 96,090 |
| Alsons Cons. Res. Inc. | 0.53 | 0.53 | 0.53 | 0.53 | 70,000 |
| Aboitiz Equity Ventures | 5.3 | 5.3 | 5.2 | 5.3 | 121,000 |
| Ajo.Net Holdings Inc. | 0.024 | 0.024 | 0.024 | 0.024 | 4,000,000 |
| A. Soriano Corp. | 1.82 | 1.82 | 1.82 | 1.82 | 444,000 |
| APC Group Inc. | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.195 | 0.2 | 1,190,000 |
| Alcorn Gold Res. Corp. | 0.0075 | 0.0075 | 0.0075 | 0.0075 | 1,000,000 |
| Anglo Phil Holdings Corp. | 1.04 | 1.04 | 1 | 1 | 1,712,000 |
| Baguio Gold Holdings Corp. | 1.38 | 1.42 | 1.38 | 1.42 | 3,000 |
| Bacnotan Cons Indus Inc | 9.8 | 9.8 | 9.8 | 9.8 | 2,000 |
| Benpres Holdings Corp. | 1.04 | 1.06 | 1.02 | 1.04 | 7,360,000 |
| DMCI Holdings Inc. | 3.95 | 4 | 3.9 | 3.95 | 2,277,000 |
| Filinvest Dev. Corp. | 2.8 | 2.85 | 2.8 | 2.85 | 321,000 |
| House Of Investments Inc. | 1.3 | 1.3 | 1.28 | 1.28 | 100,000 |
| J.G. Summit Holdings Inc. | 5.8 | 6.1 | 5.8 | 6.1 | 285,000 |
| Prime Orion Phils. Inc. | 0.18 | 0.18 | 0.17 | 0.17 | 2,000,000 |
| Republic Glass Hldg. Corp. | 1.54 | 1.54 | 1.54 | 1.54 | 40,000 |
| Solid Group Inc. | 0.53 | 0.54 | 0.53 | 0.54 | 2,850,000 |
| Sinophil Corp. | 0.125 | 0.125 | 0.12 | 0.12 | 2,650,000 |
| SM Investments Corp. | 214 | 221 | 214 | 217 | 192,520 |
| South China Resources Inc. | 0.87 | 0.87 | 0.85 | 0.85 | 70,000 |
| PROPERTY | | | | | |
| Ayala Land Inc. | 12.25 | 12.75 | 12 | 12.5 | 6,766,700 |
| Araneta Properties Inc. | 0.36 | 0.36 | 0.36 | 0.36 | 20,000 |
| Belle Corp. | 1.04 | 1.06 | 1.02 | 1.04 | 14,129,000 |
| A Brown Company Inc. | 0.85 | 0.85 | 0.85 | 0.85 | 80,000 |
| Cebu Holdings Inc | 2.1 | 2.1 | 2 | 2 | 1,652,000 |
| C & P Homes Inc. | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 4,000 |
| Empire East Land Inc. | 0.58 | 0.58 | 0.56 | 0.57 | 13,360,000 |
| Ever-Gotesco Resources | 0.038 | 0.038 | 0.038 | 0.038 | 2,400,000 |
| Filinvest Land Inc. | 1.32 | 1.34 | 1.32 | 1.32 | 5,990,000 |
| Gotesco Land Inc. | 0.0525 | 0.0525 | 0.0525 | 0.0525 | 600,000 |
| Megaworld Corp. | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.48 | 1.5 | 6,547,000 |
| Metro Pacific Corp. | 0.21 | 0.21 | 0.21 | 0.21 | 4,230,000 |
| Philippine Estates Corp. | 0.12 | 0.12 | 0.12 | 0.12 | 200,000 |
| Primex Corp. | 3.6 | 3.6 | 3.6 | 3.6 | 20,000 |
| Robinsons Land Corp | 10.25 | 10.25 | 10.25 | 10.25 | 364,500 |
| Phil Realty and Holdings | 0.26 | 0.29 | 0.25 | 0.28 | 1,960,000 |
| SM Prime Holdings Inc. | 7.8 | 7.9 | 7.8 | 7.9 | 2,655,000 |
| Suntrust Home Dev. Inc. | 0.55 | 0.55 | 0.53 | 0.53 | 320,000 |
| Uniwide Holdings Inc. | 0.06 | 0.06 | 0.06 | 0.06 | 2,000,000 |
| SERVICE | | | | | |
| MEDIA | | | | | |
| ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp. | 15.75 | 16.25 | 15.75 | 15.75 | 146,400 |
| Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp. | 1.18 | 1.18 | 1.18 | 1.18 | 30,000 |
| TELECOMMUNICATIONS | | | | | |
| Digital Telecom Phils Inc. | 1.24 | 1.28 | 1.24 | 1.28 | 7,803,000 |
| Globe Telecom Inc. | 935 | 960 | 935 | 955 | 63,070 |
| Pilipino Tel. Corp. | 3.6 | 3.65 | 3.55 | 3.6 | 3,859,000 |
| Phil. Long Dis Tel Co. | 1940 | 1975 | 1930 | 1975 | 156,660 |
| INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY | | | | | |
| Boulevard Holdings Inc. | 0.18 | 0.18 | 0.18 | 0.18 | 300,000 |
| Ionics Inc. | 2.14 | 2.18 | 2.1 | 2.1 | 322,000 |
| Island Info and Tech Inc. | 0.042 | 0.042 | 0.042 | 0.042 | 100,000 |
| Ism Communications Corp. | 0.05 | 0.0525 | 0.05 | 0.0525 | 2,700,000 |
| Music Semiconductors Corp. | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 1.2 | 60,000 |
| Philweb Corp. | 0.034 | 0.035 | 0.033 | 0.034 | 208,500,000 |
| TRANSPORTATION SERVICES | | | | | |
| Int'l Container Term'l Sv | 13.25 | 13.5 | 13.25 | 13.25 | 117,400 |
| HOTEL & LEISURE | | | | | |
| Leisure & Resorts Corp. | 1.42 | 1.42 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 50,000 |
| Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc | 0.27 | 0.28 | 0.25 | 0.25 | 900,000 |
| Waterfront Phils. Inc. | 0.55 | 0.55 | 0.54 | 0.54 | 530,000 |
| EDUCATION | | | | | |
| IPeople Inc. | 3.05 | 3.1 | 3.05 | 3.1 | 116,000 |
| DIVERSIFIED SERVICES | | | | | |
| Macroasia Corp. | 2.02 | 2.08 | 2.02 | 2.06 | 352,000 |
| Paxys Inc. | 11.25 | 11.5 | 11.25 | 11.25 | 484,700 |
| MINING | | | | | |
| Abra Mining & Industrial | 0.008 | 0.008 | 0.008 | 0.008 | 150,000,000 |
| Atlas Cons. Min & Dev't | 8.4 | 8.4 | 8.1 | 8.1 | 2,275,000 |
| Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.29 | 0.3 | 10,440,000 |
| Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co. B | 0.35 | 0.35 | 0.34 | 0.34 | 5,930,000 |
| Manila Mining Corp. A | 0.023 | 0.023 | 0.022 | 0.022 | 112,400,000 |
| Manila Mining Corp. B | 0.025 | 0.025 | 0.024 | 0.024 | 94,300,000 |
| Omico Corp. | 0.008 | 0.008 | 0.008 | 0.008 | 213,000,000 |
| Philex Mining Corp. A | 4.35 | 4.45 | 4.2 | 4.25 | 9,036,000 |
| Philex Mining Corp. B | 4.4 | 4.45 | 4.2 | 4.3 | 11,867,000 |
| Semirara Mining Corp. | 28.5 | 28.5 | 28 | 28 | 1,018,700 |
| United Paragon Mining Co. | 0.36 | 0.36 | 0.35 | 0.36 | 1,930,000 |
| Vulcan Ind'l | 0.55 | 0.55 | 0.55 | 0.55 | 260,000 |
| OIL | | | | | |
| Basic Consolidated Inc. | 0.26 | 0.26 | 0.26 | 0.26 | 2,200,000 |
| Oriental Pet. & Min. A | 0.011 | 0.011 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 266,000,000 |
| Oriental Pet. & Min. B | 0.011 | 0.011 | 0.011 | 0.011 | 12,000,000 |
| The Philodrill Corp. A | 1.26 | 1.28 | 1.24 | 1.26 | 823,000 |
| The Philodrill Corp. B | 1.26 | 1.28 | 1.26 | 1.28 | 789,000 |
| Petroenergy Res. Corp. | 18 | 18 | 17.75 | 17.75 | 2,239,000 |
| PREFERRED | | | | | |
| PLDT (10% Pref) Series M | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 100 |
| PLDT (10% Pref) Series O | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 100 |
| PLDT (10% Pref) Series P | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 1,700 |
| PLDT (10% Pref) Series Q | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 700 |
| PLDT (10% Pref) Series R | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 700 |
| PLDT (10% Pref) Series S | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 100 |
| PLDT (10% Pref) Series T | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 900 |
| PLDT (10% Pref ) Series U | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 1,700 |
| PLDT (10% Pref) Series V | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 1,200 |
| PLDT (10% Pref) Series W | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 2,200 |
| PLDT (10% Pref) Series X | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 100 |
| PLDT (10% Pref) Series Z | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 100 |
| PLDT 10% Pref Series Aa | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 10.5 | 200 |
| Warrants, Phil. Deposit Receipts, Etc. | | | | | |
| ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (PDR) | 15.75 | 16.25 | 15.75 | 16 | 615,200 |

## CURRENCIES

| July 4, 2006<br>Country | Unit | Euro Equivalent | Dollar Equivalent | Peso Equivalent |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| United States | Dollar | 0.781128 | 1.000000 | 53.0550 |
| Japan | Yen | 0.006815 | 0.008724 | 0.4629 |
| United Kingdom | Pound | 1.439619 | 1.843000 | 97.7804 |
| Hong Kong | Dollar | 0.100566 | 0.128745 | 6.8306 |
| Switzerland | Franc | 0.638385 | 0.817261 | 43.3598 |
| Canada | Dollar | 0.703022 | 0.900009 | 47.7500 |
| Singapore | Dollar | 0.493323 | 0.631552 | 33.5070 |
| Australia | Dollar | 0.579902 | 0.742390 | 39.3875 |
| Bahrain | Dinar* | 2.071958 | 2.652520 | 140.7294 |
| Saudi Arabia | Rial | 0.208267 | 0.266624 | 14.1457 |
| Brunei | Dollar | 0.491770 | 0.629564 | 33.4015 |
| Indonesia | Rupiah | 0.000085 | 0.000109 | 0.0058 |
| Thailand | Baht | 0.020556 | 0.026316 | 1.3962 |
| UAE | Dirham | 0.212691 | 0.272287 | 14.4462 |
| Euro | Euro | 1.000000 | 1.280200 | 67.9210 |
| ArgentinaPeso | 0.253407 | 0.324412 | 17.2117 | |
| Brazil | Real | 0.362052 | 0.463499 | 24.5909 |
| Denmark | Kroner | 0.134071 | 0.171638 | 9.1063 |
| India | Rupee | 0.017011 | 0.021777 | 1.1554 |
| Malaysia | Ringgit | 0.213423 | 0.273224 | 14.4959 |
| Mexico | New Peso | 0.070378 | 0.090098 | 4.7801 |
| New Zealand | Dollar | 0.473612 | 0.606318 | 32.1682 |
| Norway | Kroner | 0.125293 | 0.160400 | 8.5100 |
| Pakistan | Rupee | 0.012969 | 0.016603 | 0.8809 |
| South Africa | Rand | 0.110940 | 0.142025 | 7.5351 |
| Korea | Won | 0.000827 | 0.001059 | 0.0562 |
| Sweden | Kroner | 0.108807 | 0.139295 | 7.3903 |
| Syria | Pound | 0.015048 | 0.019264 | 1.0221 |
| Taiwan | Nt Dollar | 0.024226 | 0.031014 | 1.6454 |
| Venezuela | Bolivar | 0.000364 | 0.000466 | 0.0247 |

# MVP sharpens the saw

**COCKTALES**



*Victor C. Agustin*

ENGINEERING STUDENTS OF FAR EASTERN University who do their practicum at PLDT receive an allowance of P300 a day from the telecom company.

This was one of the little-known nuggets obtained from PLDT chair Manuel V. Pangilinan and key aides in a wide-ranging talk with the INQUIRER Business staff last Friday.

The tie-up with FEU not only fulfills PLDT's social development goals but also assures the telecom company of a steady supply of bright young talents, given the continuing exodus of Filipinos for better paying jobs abroad.

Freed from the day-to-day tasks of running the telecom empire, Manuel V. Pangilinan now has more time to embark on strategic direction of the Philippine Long Distance Telephone/Smart combine.

This includes, for instance, bringing in a Thai tycoon as graduation speaker of MVP's alma mater, Ateneo, to offer local students a regional and more competitive perspective which, we hope, would translate to an improved work ethic when the students join not only PLDT but also the business and government sectors.

To give them hands-on business experience as well as extra income, college students are extended preferential accommodation whenever they apply for the highly successful "pasa-load" Smart/Piltel program.

And, to cement its lock on the mass market, Smart began airing a new TV advertorial campaign Sunday during Manny Pacquiao's victorious fight, with Nyoy Volante singing "Umagang Kay Ganda" to propagate optimism in these toxic political times.

MVP even surprised the jaded, apolitical journalists with his engage-the-system-if-you-want-to-change-it line.

That is why, the PLDT chief said, Smart has chosen to sponsor the costly international badminton tournament to show the government that the basketball-crazy Filipinos can compete in sports where height is not a competitive advantage and, on an institutional front, to give government insights on how the business sector can invite foreign talents to nurture young local players with minimal political interference.

Speaking of politics, MVP himself had to recently engage in the messy business of putting down an internal rebellion that culminated in the departure of marketing wizard Anastacio R. Martirez, given the latter's it's-me-or-Smart-president-Napoleon-Nazareno ultimatum.

Still, despite the personal setback, Martirez bounced right back as president of an Indonesian cellular phone company, aided by a hefty separation package from Smart, MVP said.

MVP also agreed that the PLDT Makati headquarters, together with the neighboring Locsin building, would make an ideal site for a luxury hotel, given the redevelopment of the Greenbelt complex and the cost of real estate in Makati.

What is deterring the conversion is the number of buried telecom cables in the PLDT building, and the cost—about P1.5 billion—of relocating them.

MVP, incidentally, is turning 60 later this month. Unlike the May extravaganza held in Hong Kong to celebrate his parent company's (First Pacific) 25th anniversary, MVP said his personal milestone would be "a quiet one, solitary if possible."

"Maybe I'd be the fourth Filipino to climb Mount Everest," he quipped.

### Money-go-round

- ALSONS Consolidated Resources has completed its restructuring and, instead of a loss, is now projecting a modest P142-million yearend profit for the parent company.

- AFTER over a decade of litigation, Far East Bank/BPI has finally obtained Supreme Court clearance to auction the Escolta building of collapsed sugar trader Noah's Ark.

The victory came too late, though, since the building was one of the bad assets that Bank of Philippine Islands had already devolved into a special purpose vehicle.

- THE OHIO-BASED chair/CEO of the International Association of Registered Financial Consultants, Edwin P. Morrow, and Insurance Commissioner Evangeline Escobillo will lead the speakers in an industry conference Friday at the Mandarin.

Strangely, another industry group of life insurance agents will also hold another whole-day conference, this time at the Fort, also on the same day.

### Heard through the grapevine

A FORMER investment banker from Goldman Sachs, John Philip Sevilla, is tipped as the next undersecretary for finance in charge of privatization, vice just retired Gabriel Singson Jr.

Sevilla already has a foot in the DOF door, since he is now a consultant on privatization, having been brought in by Singson no less.

*(Email: cocktales_pdi@pldtdsl.net or cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com)*

# Former dealer sues Chevron for fraud

By Abigail L. Ho

MDL CENTRAL HUB INC., A FORMER DEALER of Caltex products in Central Luzon, is seeking P20.5 million in damages from Chevron Philippines Inc. in a civil case that accused the American multinational of "fraud and bad faith in contracting and performing its obligations."

In a 19-page civil case filed with the Makati Regional Trial Court, MDL cried foul over Chevron's alleged unilateral decision to revise the compensation and commission scheme that it offered distributors last year.

Under the original scheme, MDL said that Chevron promised a three-year distributorship agreement, a rebate of P7.50 for every liter of lubricant sold, and an income before taxes of around P10 million.

MDL added that Chevron also offered to give a wholesale purchase price (WPP) to its dealers that would be different from the list price (LP), or the price at which end-buyers would buy the lubricants.

Under the original scheme, MDL said Chevron gave a WPP of P89 a liter as against an LP of P95 a liter, thus allowing distributors to sell products at a discount to wholesale buyers but still keep a decent margin.

These offers, MDL said, prompted the company to apply to become a Caltex lubricants distributor in Central Luzon, particularly in Pampanga, Zambales, Olongapo, Bataan and Tarlac, despite the relatively high investment of P20 million that was needed to bankroll the business.

At the onset, MDL said it was not able to sign a final distributorship agreement with Chevron as the oil firm said this had to be reviewed by its Singapore office. An interim agreement was signed instead.

For the first few months, MDL said it earned handsome returns because of Chevron's rebate scheme.

MDL posted an average monthly net income of P543,970.29 from August 2005 to January 2006, with its highest profit of P926,980.34 chalked up in September last year.

By February, however, MDL claimed that Chevron suddenly changed its rebate scheme without even informing its distributors. This resulted in a "dismal" net income of only P38,513.97 for MDL that month.

By March, the company registered a net loss of P225,379.82, which it attributed to the new rebate scheme.

"Had MDL known that it would be conducting business under the new pricing and rebate policies, it would definitely not have applied as a distributor of Caltex in the first place. It would simply have been foolish and a complete waste for MDL to invest millions of pesos only to operate at a loss or at a very minimal profit margin," MDL said.

But Chevron officials "categorically denied any wrongdoing in its dealings with MDL."

"Chevron at all times conducts business in accordance with the highest ethical standards and strictly adheres to its corporate policies and values," according to a company statement.

"While its dealers are independent businessmen and entrepreneurs who run their businesses at their own discretion, the company values its relationship with its partners and thus implements policies with the utmost respect and consideration of the partner's welfare and viability," it added.

Chevron said it would reply to MDL's allegations in the proper forum.

# Stocks surge 2.8%

From page B1

Index rose 61.64 points, or 2.8 percent, to 2,256.48, its best finish since 2,289.80 on June 6. The index now has gained 9.2 percent in four consecutive sessions.

"It was a confluence of a number of factors—namely a sharp drop in T-bill yields during yesterday's auction and the strong peso," said AB Capital Securities analyst Erwin Balita.

Blue chip Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. was the most actively traded stock, up 5.3 percent at P1,975 on 156,660 shares traded. That was in step with the 3.8-percent rise in its American Depositary Receipts in New York Monday, when the Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 0.7 percent, and the Nasdaq Composite Index was up 0.8 percent.

Other active stocks included Ayala Land, up 4.2 percent at P12.50, as low interest rates help bolster property demand.

SM Investments rose 1.9 percent to P217 ahead of roadshows next month in Hong Kong and Singapore to update investors on recent developments concerning the group, which has interests in mall operation, property development and banking. *AP*

# Citibank, Citisec . . .

From page B1

cense validated by the SEC and transmits its orders to the PSE through its partner broker, Citisecurities.

CitisecOnline plans to conduct a maiden public offering this month. It will offer 110 million shares at P1.36 a share.

Citigroup said that it had made a conscious effort and used considerable resources over the years to establish and promote its identity under its "citi" name and mark.

"We are therefore taking every step not only to protect our brand but also to prevent confusion among the public," it said in a statement yesterday.

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| | | 45% | 126,042 | 84,028 | |
| | | 50% | 114,584 | 76,389 | 57,292 |
| | | 70% | 68,750 | 45,834 | 34,375 |
| X-TYPE Estate *Premium* | 2,900,000 | 20% | 193,334 | | |
| | | 35% | 157,084 | 104,723 | |
| | | 60% | 96,667 | 64,445 | 48,334 |
| | | 70% | 72,500 | 48,334 | 36,250 |

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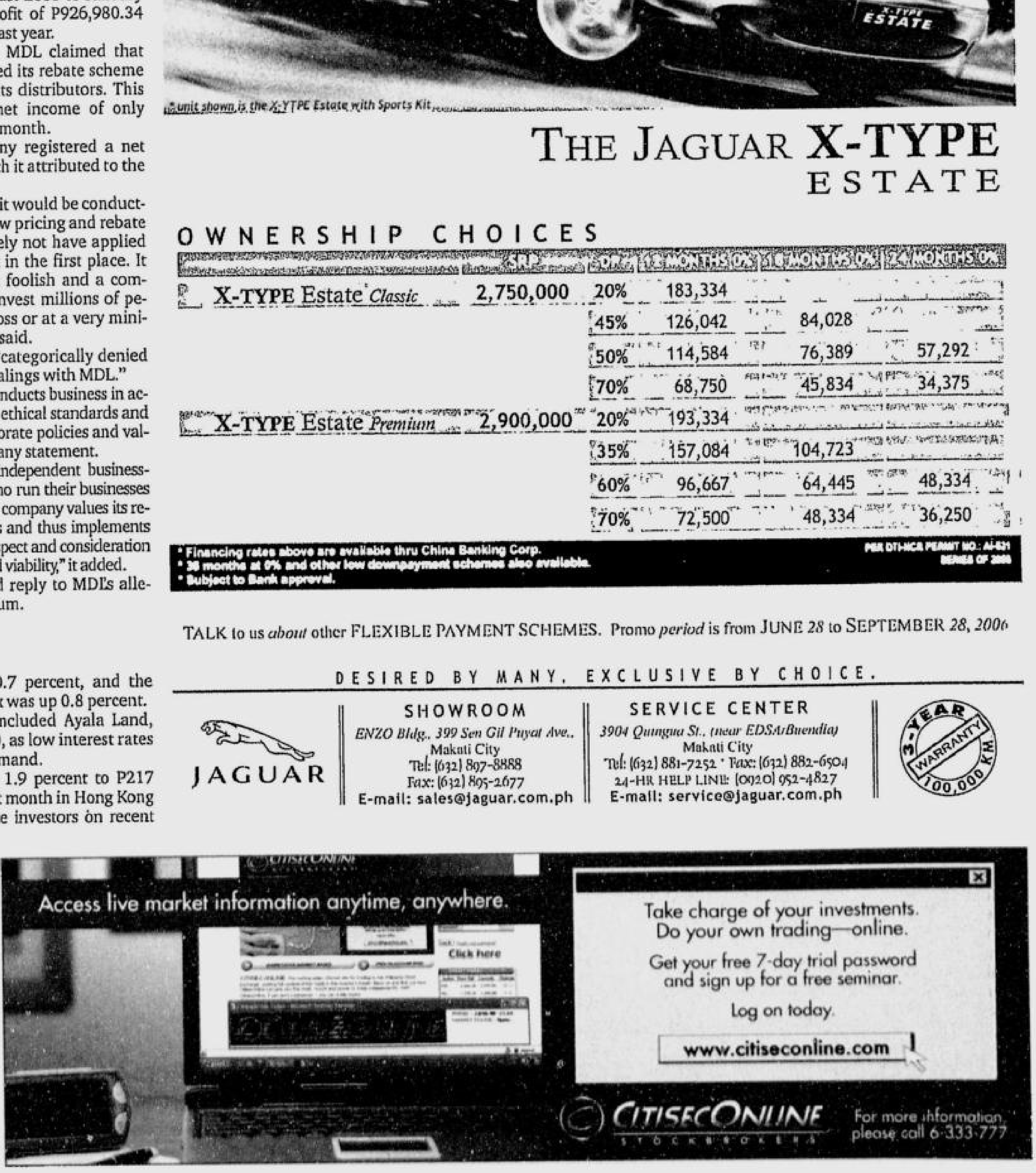

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**SOUTH LUZON TOLLWAY CORP.**
(SLEX) South Luzon Expressway Project
6th Floor Mobile Entertainment Center (formerly Jaycem Bldg.)
104 Rada St., Legaspi Village, Makati City

(PDI–June 30, July 3 & 5, 2006)

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Subic Bay Freeport Zone
Contact Person: Estelito C. Aliño, Jr.
Personnel Officer
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Press - (3) AMADA TP-35C 35T Cap. Press
Ancillary Equipment - (4) Plastic Granulators 10Hp (7) Plastic Granulators 1.5Hp; (2) MATSUI PO-120 Oven Dryers; DYNACOOL KCW-10 Chiller; MATSUI MCC-1000 Chiller; (8) FLYING TIGER OTC-1009N; (4) FLYING TIGER OTC-035; NKC BH20B Mold Temp Controllers; (2) KATO-RIKI KRT-50T Mixers; (2) TIPTON RH200 Barrel Mixers; KOBELCO AM15B; KOBELCO KST22-A Screw Compressors; SHONI, (5) HARMO DRY XII, MATSUI HD50S, HD 1005 Hopper Dryers
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# MCO Arts Festival presents pianist Aries Caces

THE MCO FOUNDATION AND EQUITABLE PCI Bank celebrates the 250th anniversary of Mozart, one of music history's great composers in a concert featuring pianist Aries Caces on July 7, 2006 (Friday), 7:30 p.m. at Equitable PCI Bank Tower I's Francisco Santiago Hall in Makati City. This is the second concert of the Foundation's annual "MCO Arts Festival". Concert repertoire will include Mozart's "Rondo in D Major, K. 485", "Fantasy in D Minor, K. 385", "Sonata in D Major, K. 284 "Dürnitz"; and Lizst's "Grandes Etudes de Paganini".

Aries Caces, a Filipino pianist based in Vienna, is one of the most versatile Filipino concert artists. Aside from being a concert pianist, he is also a conductor. The late Manila critic Vilma Santiago-Felipe described him as "another gem in the Philippine music scene."

His first piano lessons were given by his mother. At the age of seven, he enrolled at the University of Santo Tomas (UST) Conservatory of Music as a personal scholar of Prof. Feliza Custodio. In the early '80s, he attended the Philippine High School for the Arts and the UST Conservatory of Music under the tutelage of Prof. Ernestina Crisologo and Prof. Bernardino Custodio. In 1982, he won First Prize in the National Music Competitions for Young Artists (Piano Category). Two years later, he was runner - up in the Manila Symphony Orchestra Concerto Competitions.

Caces came to Graz, Austria in 1985 upon the invitation and arrangement of then Austrian Ambassador to the Philippines, Dr. Friedrich Posch. He studied with Prof. Walter Kamper at the Hochschule für Musik und darstellende Kunst in Graz; and world-renowned pianist Prof. Paul Badura-Skoda Hochschule für Musik und darstellende Kunst in Vienna. He finished his "Diplom" in 1989 and obtained his Master's Degree (Magister Artium) in Piano Performance in 1994 under Prof. Roland Keller. He also studied Piano Chamber Music with Prof. Georg Ebert. In 1999, he finished his "Diplom" in Conducting at the Hochschule für Musik in Vienna under the tutelage of Prof. Uros Lajovic.

Caces has performed several solo recitals and various concerts in the Philippines, Austria, Canada, Czech Republic, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, and the U.S.A.

Tickets to this concert are available at P300 each. Seats are on a first-come, first served basis.

For inquiries and ticket reservations, please call the MCO Secretariat at 878-3459 and 840-7000 local 2630.

# OBITUARIES

## *Angeles Ramos De Vera*

October 9, 1920 – July 3, 2006

She shall be truly missed by her loving children:
Donnie & Ningning, Ric & Rizza Pascua, Henry & Nancy,
Bobbie & Addie, Jobbie & Miel,
grandchildren and great-grandchildren

Wake Schedule:
*July 3 to 5, 2006* - Chapel 6
of the Mortuary and Crematory at The Heritage Park,
Bayani Road, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City.

*July 6 to 7, 2006* - B.A.M.O.
Lucena Cathedral, Lucena City

*July 2006*
Cabrini Hall, New Jersey, USA

Inurnment will be held in Lucena City, Philippines
to be announced at a later date.

In lieu of flowers please give sympathy and donations to
BUKAS LOOB SA DIYOS - GAWAD KALINGA MINISTRY.

Mortuary and Crematory at The Heritage Park

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## BUENAVENTURA "Turing" dela CRUZ

(retired Musician)

*Died in the Grace of our Lord on July 3, 2006 at the age of 83.*

His bereaved wife Tating (nee de Guzman); children Nenita, Gloria, Romeo, Julieta, Agustina and Raymond; son-in-law Rene and granddaughter Gwendolyn, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at his residence at #10 Paliwas, Obando, Bulacan.

Interment will be at the Obando Cemetery, Sunday, July 9, 2006 at 3:00 p.m.

---

> "..willing rather
> to be absent from the body,
> and to be present with the Lord."
> II Corinthians 5:8

## VIOLETA MALDIA-NARVAEZ

**(Wife of the late Benjamin M. Narvaez)**

*gently slipped back into the loving arms of the Almighty on July 2, 2006 at the age of 69.*

Her bereaved children **Marjorie** and **Tito Canon**, **Neal** and **Michelle**; grandchildren **Marga**, **Woween**, **Boris** (†), **Gia**, **Toby**, **Tsina**, **Jiggs**, **Daryll**, **Jolo** and **Sabine**; relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her body lies in state at Funeraria Nacional, Araneta Ave., Quezon City.

Interment will be on Saturday, July 8, 2006 after the morning Mass.

---

## Bernardino Manzano Volante

*who peacefully joined his Creator on the 2nd of July 2006 at the age of 70.*

His remains lie in state at the Holy Trinity Chapel in Parañaque City.

Interment will be on July 8, 2006 at Manila Memorial after the 8:30 a.m. Mass at the Holy Trinity Chapel.

We design **OBITUARIES** for free.

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## ERASMO ALBANO RUIZ

of Bacarra, Ilocos Norte & Gen. Santos City
Retired Supervisor, DOLFIL & STANFILCO

*Peacefully joined our Lord on July 1, 2006 at the age of 63.*

His loving wife, Thelma Javelosa; sons, Dandy & Robert; brothers & sisters, Jose (†) & Dra. Concepcion Llanes, ret. UP Prof. Nora & Atty. Jose A. Agbayani Jr. (†), ret. SSS Supv. Rosario & Dr. Mariano L. Cabel (†), Tomasito (†), former Dir. Jesus & Priscilla Olave, RTC Judge Florencio Jr., Andres & Corazon C. Velasco, ret. Transcon NTFC VP Antonio & Elisa Sto. Domingo, ret. DepEd Supv. Preciosa & Prof. Horacio A. Belen, Prospero (†) & foster brother Capt. Camillo V. Garcia (†) & Leticia Legaspi; his nephews, nieces, other relatives & friends request the pious reader to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at his residence at Sampaguita St., Purok Old Sta. Cruz, Bgy. Calumpang, Gen. Santos City.

Interment will be announced later.

---

Our Dearly Beloved

## DRA. RENEE "Baby" ARAYA LAZO, M.D.

*Died in the Grace of the Lord on July 3, 2006 at the age of 71, in Cagayan de Oro City.*

Married to Pedro (†) and survived by her siblings Amelia, Esmeraldo, Pureza, Margarita, and Agnes; children Bong & Cecile, Jaja & Lime, Viel & Tony, Chippy & Aimee; grandchildren Intoy, Issa, Nica, Bootskie, Sofia, Mara, Joaquin and Baby Renee, and other relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Greenhills Memorial Chapel, Bulua, Cagayan de Oro City.

Interment will be at Greenhills Memorial Park, Bulua, Cagayan de Oro City immediately after the Friday morning mass on July 7, 2006 at the Sacred Heart Chaplency, RER Subd., Kauswagan, Cagayan de Oro City.

---

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose."
(Romans 8:28)

In Loving Memory
*on the 1st Year Death Anniversary of*

## ROMULO V. BALAGOT

**(November 23, 1963 – July 5, 2005)**

The following Masses
will be offered today, July 5, 2006:

**St. Paul of the Cross Parish** ..... 6:00 a.m.
Marikina City
**St. Peter Church** .. 7:00 a.m.
Quezon City
**Immaculate Concepcion Church** 7:00 a.m.
Marikina City
**Don Bosco Church** .. 7:30 a.m.
Makati City
**Paraiso Memorial Park** . 8:45 a.m.
San Mateo, Rizal

We request all his loved ones, relatives, friends and pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

---

"Even when I walk through a dark valley, I feel no harm. For you are at my side, your rod and staff give me courage..." **Psalm 23:4**

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# *PCA puts on hold plans to raise fees*

**By Christine A. Gaylican**

THE PHILIPPINE COCONUT Authority has put on hold plans to increase by 100 percent the fees slapped on all exported coconut products.

The decision to indefinitely suspend the implementation of the hike in fees has put the PCA in a bind. The agency was banking on the fee increase to augment its limited budget, PCA Deputy Administrator Arturo Liquete Jr. said.

Oil milling companies and other members of the Philippine Coconut Oil Producers Association (Pcopa) strongly oppose the fee increase because they considered it untimely.

They said that the hike in fees should not be implemented so soon after the expanded value added tax rate was raised from 10 percent to 12 percent, Liquete told the Inquirer.

The implementation of the fee hike was also stopped due to a case Pcopa filed in court. The group is questioning the validity of the PCA's hike in fee, which currently stands at 6 centavos for every kilo of copra exported by local companies.

"The group wants us to wait for the court decision, which ... may come out before the end of the year," Liquete said.

The PCA at present has a very small budget. The P200 million a year it receives from the national government is not enough for the agency to pursue its P2-billion fertilization and replanting program aimed at increasing production, the official pointed out.

Liquete said that the Department of Budget and Management has instructed the PCA to maximize its collection activities, which include the fees slapped on exports and the sale of coconut seedlings, among others.

The Department of Finance has already given the PCA the greenlight to increase its fees from 6 centavos to 12 centavos per kilo of copra milled and sold abroad.

In a letter dated April 7 to newly installed PCA Administrator Oscar G. Garin, Finance Undersecretary Gil S. Beltran said that the PCA's request would be subject to strict conditions.

One of the conditions, according to Beltran, is to require the Department of Agriculture to strictly and regularly monitor the PCA's corporate performance.

"Such performance commitment reports, including the actual accomplishment reports and actual utilization of the [fees], shall be submitted to the DOF and the Department of Budget and Management within 15 calendar days at the end of each quarter," Beltran said.

Former PCA Administrator Jesus Emmanuel Paras is pushing for the fee increase, which is estimated to raise the agency's funds by P100 million a year.

# Banks probed over UITF liabilities

## BIR, BSP look into possible tax leaks arising from trade of securities

**By Doris C. Dumlao**

BUÑAG

COMMERCIAL BANKS THAT HAVE FAILED to withhold tax on gains derived from investors' participation in unit investment trust funds (UITFs) are now the subject of a government probe.

Jose Buñag, Bureau of Internal Revenue commissioner, said that trading of securities are subject to a 20-percent gains tax based on current tax laws and regulations.

In a letter to the Trust Officers Association of the Philippines, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas said it had received and noted reports on "possible tax exposure for the banks' trust departments—as trustee of UITF—arising from non-withholding of tax on gains derived by an investor from the redemption of UITF participation."

UITFs are pooled trust funds in acceptable currencies operated by a trust entity and made available by participation. They are an improved version of the common trust funds (CTFs).

The BSP ordered the phaseout of the CTFs in favor of the UITFs, and exempted them from reserve requirements as they are independent from the bank proper.

Under its circular on UITFs, the BSP said the instruments are not subject to the tax incentives designed for long-term savings and investments.

"We are thus unaware of any legal basis for the non-withholding of taxes on gains from the redemption of UITF participation," the letter said.

The letter also noted that a recent BIR ruling on the taxation of pooled funds stated that the interest income tax liability of an individual investor in a trust account should not be confused with the interest income tax liability of the trust itself.

As such, the BSP warned that the trust department of banks were "finally exposed to a potential tax liability arising from its duty as a final withholding tax agent."

"We would like to solicit your position on the matter and the proposed measures the industry intends to take to address this risk," the BSP said.

UITFs have evolved into a P200-billion industry in the Philippines a year after it was introduced to the local market.

But recently, the industry was battered by panic-selling, arising from the turbulence in global financial markets.

As it was only recently that the local industry had adopted the practice of marking-to-market a fund's assets on a daily basis, fund managers said many retail investors might have been confused due to a lack of understanding on the volatility of the net asset value.

The net asset value of UITFs could change for two main reasons: securities in the portfolio accrue interest or market prices of bonds change daily.

# SLEX rehab begins with work in Laguna

**By Daxim L. Lucas**

THE COMPANY TASKED WITH rehabilitating the South Luzon Expressway has started flood-control work in the San Pedro, Laguna section of the highway, bypassing stalled negotiations for the construction of a new viaduct in Alabang, Muntinlupa City.

In a statement, South Luzon Tollway Corp. (SLTC) said the construction work began in the area of the Alaska Milk plant in Laguna, between the Susanna Heights and Southwood exits. The site is in the TR2-A section of the project, which encompasses the Filinvest to Sta. Rosa stretch of the expressway.

SLTC president Mark Dumol said the company had decided to prioritize the San Pedro roadwork because the expected flooding in the area—which happens every year at the height of the rainy season—would seriously affect not only SLEX road users but SLTC's own construction schedule.

The roadway in this area dips in this area and becomes impassable to most vehicles due to waist-high floods after heavy rains. The affected area stretches up to one kilometer.

The same section was closed for as long as seven hours last year due to flooding. The closure caused massive congestion in both north- and south-bound lanes.

Dumol said to prevent future flooding, the low area had to be filled up to raise the roadway above the flood level.

SLTC will also install a three-barreled, reinforced concrete box culvert under the new pavement to keep the roadway drained of water throughout the rainy season.

SLTC engineers said flood control construction might take up to four months, but the company assured motorists that work would start on the highway median, and would initially have minimal effect on traffic flow on either side of the expressway.

Engineers estimate that work on traffic lanes will not begin until August.

In the meantime, all lanes will be kept open at all times during construction and motorists would be notified before each phase of the road work begins.

The construction is part of the P8-billion plan to rehabilitate, expand and extend the SLEX, which was constructed during the Marcos era.

# DTI extends helping hand to cooperatives

**By Ronnel W. Domingo**

THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE and Industry is preparing a comprehensive action plan to help cooperatives better provide consumers with affordable and quality goods.

Trade Undersecretary Zenaida C. Maglaya, who is in charge of consumer welfare, said the DTI was looking for ways to improve the productivity of cooperatives, especially those involved in the production of agricultural goods.

"One way of becoming more productive is to ensure an efficient supply chain," Maglaya said. "For instance, producers can be trained to work through all levels of the supply chain which would enable them to produce, process, consolidate, distribute and sell their own goods."

"In this manner, they can offer cheaper prices to consumers but still get maximum profit," she said.

Maglaya said that in a recent dialog with DTI officials, representatives of cooperatives raised the issue of the need for more and meaningful government assistance to improve the livelihood of cooperative members, most of whom were poor farmers and fishermen.

Victorio Mario A. Dimagiba, Director of DTI's Bureau of Trade Regulation and Consumer Protection said that in answer to these concerns, the agency would exert effort to address the cooperatives' lack of know-how and finances as well as capability in marketing their products.

Dimagiba said follow-up meetings would be conducted to explore the formation a technical working group that would focus on addressing the sector's needs.

Aside from DTI agencies, among those identified to take part in the next meetings include the Small and Medium Enterprise Development Group, which addresses the concerns of small businesses through finance, policy advocacy, marketing, product design and development, and training.

Groups of cooperatives represented in the past meeting included the Philippine Cooperative Center, Cooperative Union of the Philippines, and the National Market Vendors Confederation of Cooperatives.

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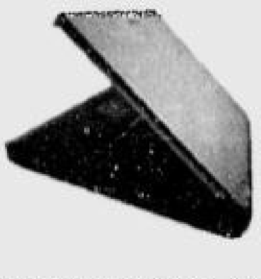

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# What to expect from high-speed braking

**By Tessa R. Salazar**

*Last of three parts*

*(Note: For the past two weeks,* INQUIRER *Motoring has been running articles based on actual images taken from North Luzon Expressway (NLEX) traffic surveillance camera. The maximum allowable speed for cars along NLEX is 100 kph. For trucks and buses, it's 80 kph. The minimum allowable speed for all vehicles, on the other hand, is 60 kph.)*

A CAR used as "crumple zone" by a speeding bus

A RIDER in a dash

A TRUCK that thinks it's a sport mini.

A 10-WHEELER TRACtor tractor head, speeding along like a sports car, would require a much longer braking distance before it could completely stop. That distance would even be longer if the truck was attached to a loaded trailer. As it is, this trailer-less truck running at 149 kph would consume a distance of at least 220 meters—or 21 full-sized buses—before it comes to a full stop.

Safe Drive Training Australia's managing director Joel Neilsen and Michael Paine of Vehicle Design Research in Australia, after being shown these images, stressed on the more important sub-aspect of braking distance, which is the likely impact speed if a collision does occur.

## Impact speed

The impact speed is the extent of damage the vehicle will cause or sustain at specific distances within the braking distance. So, for example, if the driver of the said speeding truck stepped on its brakes to avoid colliding with a tree 100 meters away, it would have been too late. The inevitable collision will happen because the tree is within the stopping distance. The only question remaining is at what speed the truck will hit the tree, and given that speed, what damage will be incurred.

An example of impact speed is when the driver has no time to react to an object ahead. In this case, the braking distance is taken out of the equation altogether. This was the case of a speeding bus on the left inner lane (the fast lane) that suddenly swerved to the slow right lane, not realizing in time a slow-running car on that lane. The bus rear-ended the car at full speed, transforming the car into its "crumple zone."

## Favorable conditions

Another vehicle caught on camera is a Honda Super 4 big bike running at 178 kph. Lester Dizon, editor in chief of Motorcycle magazine, estimated its braking distance at between 75 and 90 meters, or about seven to eight buses, before it comes to a full stop. Dizon was quick to add, however, that the estimated braking distance would be achieved in "favorable" conditions: tires are warm and correctly inflated; shock absorbers are properly installed; and fan suspensions are set on "hard."

Though the "skid" factor might play heavily into the braking dynamics of a motorcycle, experienced riders can avoid this pitfall and avoid losing balance altogether. Frank Woolfe, director for administration and publishing, the Motorcycle Philippines Federation, said the bike is unlikely to skid if the rider knows how to brake properly. He added that in almost all situations, the rider can avoid the accident without emergency braking.

## Total stopping distance

Neilsen also observed that many drivers harbor the mistaken belief that if the car in front suddenly applied the brakes and they in turn applied the brakes, they would end up stopped the same distance apart.

The total stopping distance of a vehicle is made up of four components: human perception time; human reaction time; vehicle reaction time; and vehicle braking capability. These components acting simultaneously on each vehicle's braking dynamics almost always guarantee different stopping distances each time. As such, the stopping distances Inquirer Motoring has indicated for the various speeding vehicles the past two weeks start only from the time the brakes had actually been applied—roughly only the third and fourth component making up the total stopping distance.

Where you really end up after these death-defying speeds is entirely up to you.

# How to keep your vehicle tires in tiptop shape

AS WITH EVERYTHING ELSE IN LIFE, car tires does last forever, and it's best to be safe and check them regularly for wear and tear. Tire damage is brought on by several factors, and Rapidé, the fastest growing chain of auto service repair centers, has prepared guidelines for vehicle owners to ensure that tires are in tiptop shape.

Chronic overinflation causes tires to wear out, reducing its useful tread life. This will eventually remove tread down to the fabric, exposing the carcass to fracture and water damage. Be sure to immediately replace worn tires as its smooth edges can easily and dangerously skid on wet curves on the road.

Chunking, on the other hand, occurs when tread loosens and is torn off by centrifugal force. The damage is often due to defects in the tire's construction.

## Incorrect wheel chamber

An incorrect wheel chamber can be spotted by wear on one edge of the tire only, so check the front tires for irregular wear and get the wheels of your car aligned periodically. A flat spot, meanwhile, usually arises from skidding on dry pavement when the brakes have locked.

Feathering of the tread is caused by excessive toe-in or toe-out of front wheels, which makes tires slightly slide sideways when they roll. Cupping or scalloping comes from an unbalanced tire or because of faulty suspension parts, steering linkages, or wheel bearings. When you get a punctured tire, replace it with a spare at once even if it has not gone flat, and leave the nail in the tire so the repairman can easily find the hole.

When it comes to tire sidewall damage, a flat tire is first on the list. Running over a curb, pothole, or other obstruction with a flat can break the sidewall plies. When it breaks radially, then you are left with a carcass failure, a damage that does not manifest on the outside of the tire.

An internal fracture can be brought about by hitting a pothole or curb at high speed. Sidewall scuffing occurs when the tire is constantly scraped against curbs during parking; and project rubbing is caused by the inner sidewall rubbing against steering or suspension parts. Lastly, a barely visible external break or cut can cause severe bubbling between the plies inside the tire and the water can rot the rayon plies.

## Maintenance services

The Rapidé centers offer traditional core services for maintenance—from brakes, steering and suspension, clutch and drivetrain, to battery and tire services. Rapidé guarantees only the highest level of quality, commitment to, and emphasis on total customer satisfaction. There's even a customer call-back system for direct feedback, evaluation and grading of client response scores and a text message service that alerts customers when vehicle repairs are finished.

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Rapidé Auto Service Experts is the largest auto service chain in the Philippines with branches located all over Metro Manila and South Luzon. For more information on Rapidé products and services, please visit their website at www.rapide.com.ph.

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# The podium: Mild Seven Renault Territory

ALONSO at Canada GP

WITH THE 2006 SEASON APproaching its halfway mark, the Mild Seven Renault Formula One (F1) Team is making it clear to rest of the field that the podium is blue and yellow territory.

The victory of Fernando Alonso at the Canadian Grand Prix (GP) marked the 15th straight race that either one or both Mild Seven Renault drivers stepped to the podium at the end of a race. This streak of podium finishes began in August 2005 during the Turkish GP.

"We are plainly in a very strong position, and in terms of pure competitiveness, I think we are stronger than we were in 2005. We are delighted with our results so far," said Bob Bell, technical director of the Mild Seven Renault Team.

## 6 wins

With nine races down and nine left on the 2006 race calendar, Alonso Mild Seven Renault has already scored six victories in Bahrain, Australia, Spain, Monaco, Britain and Canada.

Meanwhile, teammate Giancarlo Fisichella ruled the Malaysian GP and has scored valuable points in all the races this year except the season-opener in Bahrain where he was hounded by mechanical problems.

Alonso adds another factor to the solid performance of the Mild Seven Renault—the fans.

"The car hasn't missed a beat, and the atmosphere and support from the fans has been amazing. Watching the fans all go so crazy has been amazing," Alonso said.

The combination of excellent engineering and unwavering fan support has catapulted the Mild Seven Renault Team to a scorching start.

## Dominance

The team established its dominance by breaking the 100-point barrier before the halfway mark of the season.

Out of a possible maximum of 144 points, the Mild Seven Renault Team has notched 106 which is more points than the team scored during the entire 2004 season. At the same stage last year, Mild Seven Renault has only scored 76 points but eventually went on to win the Constructors' Championship.

The Mild Seven Reanult F1 Team recently signed a contract with Fisichella for the 2007 season.

"This clear vision for the future means I can focus 100 percent on the job at hand: retaining the constructors' championship with Renault in 2006 and finishing as high as possible in the drivers' standings," said Fisichella.

The last time that neither of the Mild Seven Renault drivers finished on the podium was during the Hungarian GP on July 31, 2005. Alonso's races hopes were dashed after a first corner collision with Ralph Schumacher damaged his front wing while Fisichella struggled with engine and fuel pressure problems.

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# Toyota upgrades the Previa

**ON THE ROAD**

*Aida Sevilla Mendoza*

GIVEN THE EXTENDED FAMILY TRADITION in this country, multipurpose vehicles (MPVs), also known as minivans, compete in a highly lucrative segment of the automobile market. All the major carmakers are aggressively selling MPVs except for Honda Cars Philippines Inc.

Toyota Motor Philippines Corp. entered the MPV market with the junior-size Lite-Ace, followed by the larger Hi-Ace, which by now has graduated to the big van/people carrier category. Now comes the 2006 Previa. At first glance, you will notice nothing obviously new in the latest Previa because of the similar smiling façade and body shape. But when you drive it you will see and feel the difference.

## Enhanced engine

For starters, the 2.4-liter VVT-i, 4 cylinder-in-line twin cam 16-valve engine has been enhanced to 170 Hp/6,000 rpm from 157 Hp/5,700 rpm. The 4-speed automatic transmission with ECT remains the same as does the suspension system, but 17-inch alloy wheels have replaced the 16-inch ones in the 2005 Previa.

Dimension-wise, the '06 Previa is longer and wider but shorter in height while its wheelbase has been increased from 2900 mm to 2950 mm. The curb weight has also gone up from 1,650 kg in the '05 model to 1,845 kg in the '06. Front and rear tread has also been expanded.

THE '06 Previa is longer, wider and more high-tech. (AIDA SEVILLA MENDOZA)

## Hid with AFS

The '05 Previa's halogen headlamps have been replaced with high intensity discharge (HID) and AFS (adaptive front lighting system) this year. A headlamp cleaner system and automatic headlamp leveling device have been added plus fog lamps at the rear to supplement the ones in front. The rear window defogger has been equipped with a timer and the outside rearview mirrors are now color-keyed with heater and integrated side-turn signal lamps. And the '06 Previa has donned a side skirt.

When you climb into the driver's seat of the new Previa, you will find that an eight-way power adjustment has been added while the front seat is manually adjustable four ways. Comfy dual captain seats still make up the second row but the bench-type third row seat is now 60/40 foldable and tumble-down. The seats are now natural leather and the steering wheel is not only tilt adjustable, but also telescopic adjustable with an audio switch Euro-style.

## Changes

Other changes/additions in the cabin: the shift lever is now in-panel; four more cupholders have been added for a total of six in the back and two in front; the center console box has a sliding lid.

The air-conditioning system has been improved to include not only automatic climate control but also plasma cluster, pollen removal mode and right and left independent controls up front plus manual controls for the rear passengers. MP3 capability has been added to the audio system.

The new Previa still has dual front SRS airbags and disc brakes on all four wheels, but the ABS has been enhanced with Electronic Brake Force Distribution (EBD) and the high-mount stop lamp is now LED (light-emitting diode). The number of 3-point ELR seatbelts in the third row of seats has been increased to three.

## Smart key

But the most dramatic high-tech novelty of the '06 Previa is the Smart Key that activates the Auto and Easy Closer Doors. By pressing the appropriate button on the Smart Key, you wirelessly open/close the right or left electric sliding door and power back door. No manual labor needed to open or close the sliding side doors and tailgate. If you are seated up front, you can use the set of power door control buttons located above the windshield in the ceiling.

The Smart Key, by the way, is not inserted in the ignition to start the engine. The '06 Previa has a push-start button, sportscar-style, in the dashboard. So this seven-seater MPV not only has keyless entry, it also has keyless ignition. (It's common sense, of course, to keep the Smart Key safe from the playful hands of children.)

All these changes/additions translate into a stronger, faster, roomier and more convenient Previa. At P2.262 million for the full-option edition that I test drove, the 2006 Previa looks ready to give competing MPVs a real run for their money.

* * *

TODAY'S BUMPER STICKER: A man needs a mistress just to break the monogamy.

* * *

*E-mail comments to asevilla@inquirer.com.ph.*

WITH THE SMART Key, the new Previa's side and back doors open remote-control. (AIDA SEVILLA MENDOZA)

AN IN-PANEL shift lever and push-start button in the Previas cockpit

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# MOTORSCOPE

## New company to support Toyota production in Asia

TOYOTA MOTOR CORP. HAS ANNOUNCED IT HAS ESTABLISHED Toyota Motor Asia Pacific Co. Ltd. in Thailand to support Toyota production operations in Thailand, as well as in Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Vietnam, Taiwan and India.

TMAP Thailand is aimed at strengthening Toyota's Asian production and supply network by improving the speed and efficiency of individual production companies. It will gradually assume TMC's role of providing from Japan support related to production, purchasing and logistics.

At a recent press conference in Bangkok, TMC senior managing director Akira Okabe, who also chairs TMAP Thailand, said: "Close collaboration among TMAP Thailand, TMAP Singapore and Toyota Technical Center Asia Pacific, which began operations as TMC's R&D center in Thailand in 2005, will enable us to respond to the customers' needs in the (Asian) region more effectively. This will be accomplished through better integration of development, production and marketing processes together with our associates in the region."

TMAP Thailand's production-support objective complements that of TMAP Singapore, which was established in Singapore in 2001 to support Toyota marketing and sales operations in Asia. TMAP Singapore president Ryoichi Sasaki has also been named president of TMAP Thailand. Both companies are to carry out integrated management of production and sales through close cooperation with the production and sales companies in the countries concerned.

PGA CARS chair Robert Coyiuto, Jr. (second from right) seals the contract with a handshake with Audi Asia Pacific director Claudius Meynert. Also present during the contract signing are PGA Cars president Miguel Coyiuto (right) and Claus Korger, country manager of Audi Asia Pacific (left).

## Beneficial partnership

THE GROWTH IN THE MARKET SHARE OF AUDI VEHICLES IN THE country is the result of the beneficial partnership between Audi and PGA Cars, the sole importer and distributor. Last year, the sales figures of PGA Cars more than doubled due to the increased demand for the award-winning models and excellent after-sales service that embodies the ownership of Audi automobiles.

In just over a year, PGA Cars has demonstrated its capability as the sole Philippine importer and distributor of Audi vehicles. The affirmation of this partnership proves that PGA Cars has also provided a clear expression of the dynamism and innovation of the Audi brand in the Philippines along with its strict adherence to the international dealership and servicing standards mandated by Audi AG of Germany.

## Volvo XC90 for Pope Benedict XVI

VOLVO CARS PRESENTED TO POPE BENEDICT XVI ONE OF ITS sport utility vehicles (SUVs).

The keys of the car have been delivered to the Pope in the Vatican on June 28, with a short ceremony after the Papal audience.

The ceremony was attended by Gerry Keaney, VP for Marketing Sales and Service, Volvo Car Corp.; Pascal Bellemans, president, and Michele Crisci, general manager, both from Volvo Auto Italia.

The Volvo XC90 delivered to the Pope—and fitted for His personal use—is a V8 version. It is a dark blue XC90 with light interiors.

Since its debut, the Volvo XC90 has set the highest standards among SUV when it comes to Safety, in all driving conditions and on any surface. The AWD system (all-wheel drive) allows the car excellent off-road behavior, while ROPS System helps the car avoiding roll-over or reducing consequences of that type of accident.

In Manila, Viking Cars Inc. is the official distributor of Volvo cars. The Volvo Makati office, showroom and Aftersales Service Center are located at 2272 Chino Roces Ave., Makati City, while Volvo Ortigas Center is located at 88 ADB Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City. Volvo Cebu is located on A.S. Fortuna Street, Banilad, Mandaue City.

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# Ford stunner; Makati answers

**FULL TANK**

*Al Mendoza*

THE MOTORING WORLD WAS STUNNED last week when Ford Motor Co. confirmed from its base in Dearborn, Michigan, it would not meet its widely publicized goal of selling 250,000 hybrid vehicles a year by 2010, a goal Ford had set when energy prices rose after Hurricane Katrina.

Ford through its chief executive, William Clay Ford Jr., said it now plans to focus on flexible-fuel vehicles run on gasoline and another type of fuel like ethanol.

"This is in no way a lack of commitment to hybrids," Ford said. "It's an expansion of our commitment to other technologies."

Still, Daniel F. Becker, a famous environmentalist, also citing the company's move to back off from a previous promise to build more fuel-efficient sport utility vehicles, said Ford was "rapidly becoming the automaker that cried wolf."

Surely, the Ford about-face will trigger repercussions on vehicle production plans worldwide.

* * *

Joey Salgado wrote to say that MMDA (Metro Manila Development Authority) has no power to enact ordinances. He was reacting to my column of June 27, regarding Makati's policy of disregarding the MMDA's "window coding" which the rest of Metro Manila heeds. Joey, a former Malaya reporter, is the officer-in-charge of the Information and Community Relations Department of Makati. Read on:

"Dear Idol,

"Read your column in the INQUIRER. Please allow a fan to make some clarifications.

"According to the latest figures we have, over 777,000 vehicles pass through Makati every day, mainly through Ayala, Buendia, Makati Avenue, J. P. Rizal, South Superhighway, and the Makati portion of C-5 and Edsa.

"Not surprising, since Makati is the financial center and the place to go for high-end shopping and leisure activities. This is what makes Makati unique: for such a small place, it attracts a large number of people and vehicles on weekdays. And this entails a solution that is uniquely Makati.

"The challenge for us in the city government is to draw up measures to ease the congestion and [to] keep the traffic flowing. Designating separate loading and unloading spots is one of them. The system has been in place since 2000, if I recall correctly (those night at the press club and other watering holes have taken its toll on my brain cells), but what I do remember is a study conducted by the University of the Philippines on the scheme. The UP study showed that as a result of the scheme, travel time along Ayala Avenue has been reduced, resulting in saved man hours and increased productivity for Makati offices.

"This is also the reason the Makati City Council passed an ordinance imposing a number coding scheme in the city. We do not have a provision for a 'window.' There is a logical reason behind this.

"The number-coding scheme reduces the number of vehicles by 20 percent. As it is, traffic in Makati is already heavy at certain hours even with the number-coding scheme, and the last thing we need is to open a 'window' and allow more vehicles on the streets.

"Why is Makati implementing its own number coding scheme? Under the law, and this has been affirmed several times by the Supreme Court, local governments exercise jurisdiction over traffic management in their localities. As for the MMDA, the Supreme Court has made it clear, again in several decisions, that the agency is a mere coordinating agency for Metro Manila LGUs. The MMDA has no power to enact ordinances, since this is the domain of the local Councils.

"Yet the MMDA continues to insist on its so-called mandate. In the face of Supreme Court decisions, the MMDA says it is business as usual. When they are reminded of the Supreme Court rulings, they say, so sue us. Only in da Philippines, indeed."

* * *

QUOTE ME. Like texting while driving, smoking while driving is also as dangerous.

* * *

E-mail to menju@pldtdsl.net.

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# 5 Best Driving Roads, Summer 2006

*First of two parts*

**MY DRIFT**

*Andre Palma*

THE SUMMER SEASON HAS OFFICIALLY ended. Schools have begun their academic years and the rains are progressing beyond the occasional shower, hinting of the typhoon season that will be upon us sooner than later.

The hot and humid months of our dry season herald the time of countless road trips for many of us Filipinos. With the kids out of school and the long Easter break, many of us troop back to the provinces, going back to our hometowns, to beaches we grew up seeing and to mountain retreats that promise alleviation from the punishing clime of our tropical island nation.

For the motoring journalist though, this season of sun marks the time of the long distance road trip frequently organized by the vehicle manufacturers to promote their products. This is really one of the best ways to get to know a vehicle, short of a long-term test drive or actually ownership of a certain model.

While distances sometimes well above a thousand kilometers may seem like punishment to many, those of us who like to drive relish in this extended seat time. I personally often forget that I am working while at the wheel, savoring the nuances of our nation's roads and taking what scenery I can through the windscreen within the limits of reason and safety, of course.

## One blessing

The past summer has seen me log something just over 6,000 km, all over our nation, and in many make and model of vehicle. While the experiences change with the class and quality of the cars that I've driven, one blessing remains with me from the summer: that of finding some of the best driving roads in the Philippines. I am sure that there are still more challenging roads in places that I've still to visit, but in the summer of 2006, these five stand out.

The Bukidnon-Davao road opens our list, having been used in Toyota's Innova Roadtrek Challenge that began in Cagayan De Oro City and finished on the sandy beaches of the Garden City of Samal, right off the coast of Davao City. What makes one remember this particular route is that the driving surfaces are mostly in excellent condition with many ascents and descents that can give drivers of varied skill levels a decent enough challenge.

The scenery is pleasant; snaking through steep mountain passes and wide open expanses of cattle-grazing land. Local drivers are not as crazy as elsewhere in the Philippines, showing more than a little patience and compassion toward their fellow motorists.

## Another classic driving road

The Atimonan-Gumaca downhill in Quezon Province is another of these classic driving roads, but is something not for that faint of heart. Used as a bypass for the infamous Doña Aurora Quezon National Park zigzag, this road climbs sharply just after the outskirts of Atimonan then rhythmically kinks down to the sleepy seaside town of Gumaca, where the national highway is framed by cliffs on one side and the open ocean on the other.

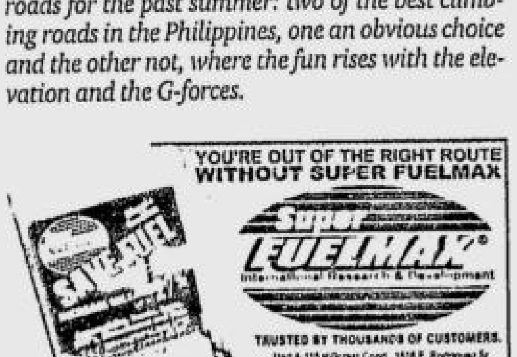
Take caution when driving this area at pace as though it may look desolate and deserted, people still cross the national highway with impunity and the volume of trucking headed to and from Bicol is heavy and not very friendly. Highlights include a one plus kilometer stretch with a tightening right-hand bend and the myriad of linked S-curves or chicanes that lead to the seaside.

## Consistently maintained

Ranking third is the highway system of the Ilocos region; something that must sound broad and very unspecific, but there is good reason for that. Nowhere else in the nation have I found a road network so consistently maintained. Highlights from the eastern part of the region include the coastal highway near Vigan and Candon, with the breathtaking views and the meandering tarmac.

On the western side of the region, the roads leading up from Enrile to Tuguegarao pass through some of the eeriest semi-arid moonscape I've seen in the Philippines. The northern tip of the region is remarkable for the extensive section of elevated highway and the ascent in the Patapat Cliffs area. Please try to explore these areas at daytime, not really for safety's sake but for the remarkable vistas of waves lapping at the area's cliffs.

*Next week: The balance of the best driving roads for the past summer: two of the best climbing roads in the Philippines, one an obvious choice and the other not, where the fun rises with the elevation and the G-forces.*



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# SBMA OKs deals worth $173M

## New facilites in tourism, services, manufacturing expected

**By Ronnel W. Domingo**

THE SUBIC BAY METROPOLITAN Authority approved the registration of 27 new projects worth $173 million in April and May.

SBMA chief executive Armand C. Arreza said 10 of the projects were related to tourism, seven in services, six in warehousing and four in manufacturing.

About 98 percent or $169.5 million were put in by foreign investors and the remaining $3.4 million came from local investors.

SBMA data showed that the approved projects brought the total firms operating in the former US military base to 669, with cumulative committed investments from 1992 reaching $3.5 billion.

"We are trying to maintain a broad spectrum of opportunities here in the Subic Bay freeport to be able to cater to a broad spectrum of workforce," Arreza said in a statement.

"We take pride in what our locators came here for—strategic location, world class infrastructure, competitive incentives, highly qualified workforce, and up to six-year tax holiday for qualified industries," Arreza said.

The biggest of the newly approved projects in terms of investment was Delta Production Philippines Corp.'s $155.7-million venture in the manufacturing, trading and rental of aluminum scaffoldings and rental of machinery for ship repair.

Coming in second was Yienson Manufacturing Corp.'s $12-million project in the manufacture, import and export of semi-finished and finished goods.

Next were Subic Executive Lofts Condominium Corp.'s $1.5-million project for building and operating condominium hotels; and Cover & Pages Corp.'s $1-million project in printing services.

The other projects approved in April were those of Interisland Resorts and Services, Asiapro Cooperative, Bonzette General Merchandise, Suntech International, Shengkai, Florenz Store, Capital Exchange Ventures, Winstar Subic Display, Mango Valley, Transtotal Solutions, Century Peak, Janvy's Café, J.P. Automobile Technique Subic, AMTI Computers Subic, F.A.C.E. Logistics & Distribution, Freeport Meathouse, Tito Pak's Grilled Chicken & BBQ and Velvet Greens & Blooms.

Others approved in May include the projects of Jorgman Construction and Development, Jamecca Insurance Brokers, Mechatro, Unitec Subic and Freeport Elite Resort.

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## AutoPacific names Hyundai the 2006 Ideal Vehicle Brand

- *Inaugural Study Shows Hyundai Best Meets Customer Expectations*
- *Sonata and Santa Fe Also Win Top Category Honors*

Automotive research and consulting firm AutoPacific named Hyundai as the 2006 Ideal Vehicle Brand. The Hyundai Sonata and Santa Fe also earned Ideal Vehicle awards for the premium midsize car and standard midsize sport utility segments.

AutoPacific's first-ever Ideal Vehicle Awards (IVA) ranked auto manufacturers for how closely their 2006 model year cars or trucks came to matching owners' expectations and criteria. The vehicles that customers said they would change the least were considered the most "ideal."

"This award is the result of Hyundai's laser focus on listening to customer needs - and meeting those needs in our new product designs," said John Krafcik, vice president, Product Development and Strategic Planning, Hyundai Motor America. "The Hyundai brand stands for industry-leading quality, superior standard safety technology, and great value - and that's a recipe we'll continue to build on to meet and exceed the expectations of our growing customer base."

To determine the winners, AutoPacific asked owners to rate their new car or truck on how close it came to "ideal" in the following areas: exterior size; passenger roominess; cargo space; driver's seat comfort; driver's seat visibility; interior technology; power; ease of getting in and out; interior storage compartments; and tires and wheels.

"With Hyundai being the top-rated brand in our first Ideal Vehicle Awards and having two vehicle segment wins, it has outscored all other brands in the U.S. market," said AutoPacific's present, George Peterson. "Sonata hit the target for ideal exterior dimensions, passenger area and cargo space, and the Santa Fe came out ahead with solid numbers across the board. These results show that Hyundai's planners, engineers and designers have paid close attention to what their customers want."

The IVA ratings reflect input from buyers and lessees of new vehicles acquired from September 2005 through January 2006, with the exception of pickup trucks (which were not included in the study due to body style differences within each line).

Earlier this month, J.D. Power and Associates announced that Hyundai is the number one non-premium nameplate in the 2006 Initial Quality StudySM (IQS) and is number three among all nameplates. Hyundai owners had fewer problems with their vehicles than any other non-premium car or truck brand.

In addition to Hyundai's strong overall showing, the Hyundai Tucson earned the trophy for the highest initial quality in the compact multi-activity vehicle segment while the redesigned Sonata, all-new Azera as well as the Elantra and Tiburon earned top three segment performances. Last year in the IQS, Tucson was named the highest quality all-new model launched in the industry. The IQS study measures 217 attributes, including ride/handling/braking, engine and transmission, and a broad range of defect and design problems reported by vehicle owners.

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# Spontaneous combustion

## Director Robby Carmona and his collaborators turned the jam-packed Araneta Coliseum into their idea of a pulsating dance floor for 'Bench Fever'

**ZANJOE** Marudo with Angelica Panganiban and Cassandra Ponti

**Text by Alex Y. Vergara**
**Photos by Chito Vecina and Jim Guiao Punzalan**

WHO SAYS YOU HAVE TO dance the night away to keep your heart pounding? As fans found out recently, all they needed to do was sit and ogle at scantily clad models and celebrities to break into a sweat and experience spontaneous palpitation.

For the first time since Bench started staging its much-awaited biannual denim and underwear show six years ago, the homegrown retail brand drew inspiration from an unlikely venue: disco.

Director Robby Carmona and his collaborators, which included some of the country's leading fashion designers and celebrity stylists, turned the jam-packed Araneta Coliseum Friday night into their idea of a pulsating dance floor, complete with strobe lights, disco balls, go-go cages, giant projectors and a DJ's booth.

Just like in previous shows, "Bench Fever" featured such crowd-drawers as Richard Gomez, Lucy Torres, Wendell Ramos, Diether Ocampo, Kristine Hermosa, Jay-R, Richard Gutierrez, Francine Prieto, Alessandra de Rossi and Jon Hall.

They shared the spotlight with new recruits such as Rufa Mae Quinto, Zanjoe Marudo, Rafael Rosell, Sam Milby, Keanna Reeves and the inimitable Ai-Ai delas Alas, who again managed to steal the show with her "sleight-of-hand" tactics.

Unlike in previous shows, Gomez, with his

SPONTANEOUS/ C2

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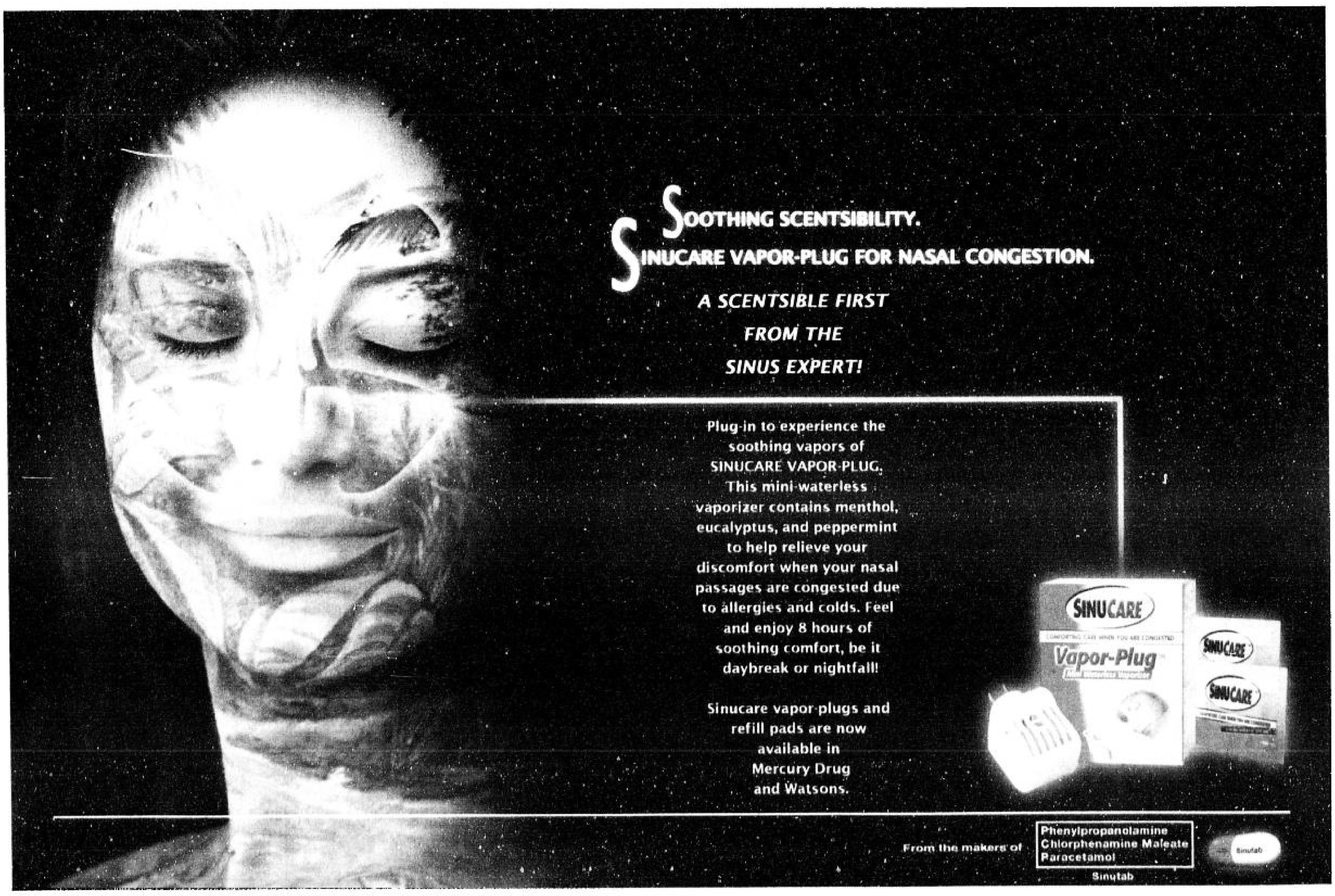
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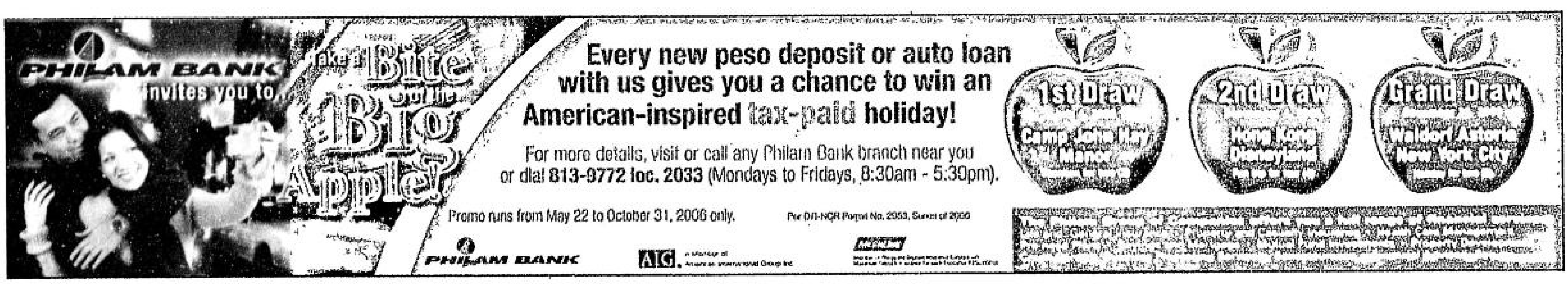
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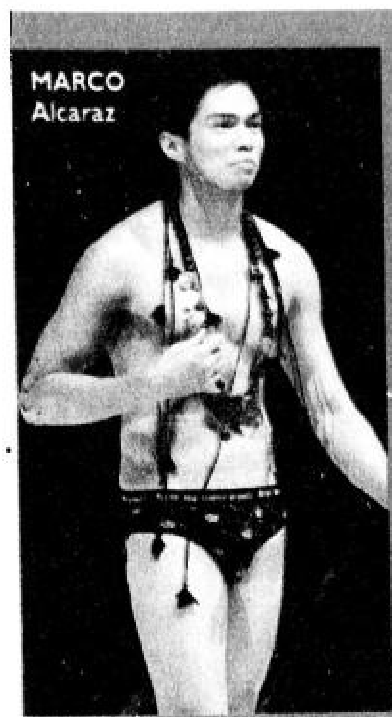


**MARCO** Alcaraz

**MAUREEN** Larrazabal

**JAY-R**

**ALESSANDRA** de Rossi

**ANTONIO** Aquitania

**FRANCINE** Prieto

# Spontaneous combustion

**IYA Villania**

**SAM** Milby

From page C1

real-life leading lady, didn't suffer from overexposure. This time, in a move befitting a Bench icon, he appeared only once during the show's finale.

Alas, people behind the show didn't give much thought when it came to special guests such as Sister Sledge and The Village People. They should have performed before the main event, and not after when giddy fans had had their fill and were raring to leave and swap stories with friends.

## Candy-colored set

Carmona brought ringside voyeurs, er, spectators closer to the stage by doing away with a space-consuming multilevel ramp in favor of a classic T ramp painted in candy-colored stripes by production designer Gino Gonzales.

For the first time, too, Bench managed to virtually stage several shows rolled into one courtesy of Randy Ortiz, Rajo Laurel, Patrice Ramos-Diaz, Rhett Eala, Joey Samson, Cecile Zamora, Celine Lopez and INQUIRER Super's Tim Yap.

Since each personality worked around a particular theme, fans were able to savor various flavors and nuances—from punk to Victorian, "Temptation Island" to "Flashdance," super athlete to Superman—as the show progressed from one segment to another.

Surprisingly, certain non-designers were able to hold their own against supposedly more seasoned couturiers. Fans probably cared little about acid-colored and beaded underwear that tended to look too gay. When it came to their objects of fantasy, they still preferred to see them in their "pristine" state sans glittery and over-the-top styling.

Yap, for instance, overhauled the superhero theme with on-target animé-inspired styling in the form of thigh-high boots, plastic skirts and bunny rabbit's ears. Too bad the flimsy capes failed to fly.

Lopez had timing on her side, as she opened the show to a delirious crowd (some of whom had trooped to Cubao as early as noon to avoid the weekend traffic jam) with a fail-safe theme revolving around varsity players decked in de rigueur medals and holding giant trophies.

We could almost feel the "athletes'" raging hormones as they dashed one after the other down the ramp. For some reason, however, Lopez failed to include such varsity staples as animated cheerleaders and jockstrap-clad musclemen as they decompressed in the locker room.

BENCH'S main man Ben Chan takes a bow.

CARLOS Morales and Jon Hall

But the evening's campiest and most unpredictable segment was Zamora's, which derived inspiration from Joey Gosiengfiao's "Temptation Island."

In keeping with the potboiler's meandering storyline, Zamora chose to do away with an underlying look. Thus, her makeshift scarves, black berets, beaded bibs, knitted and layered tops had an ad-hoc quality to them that spelled fun.

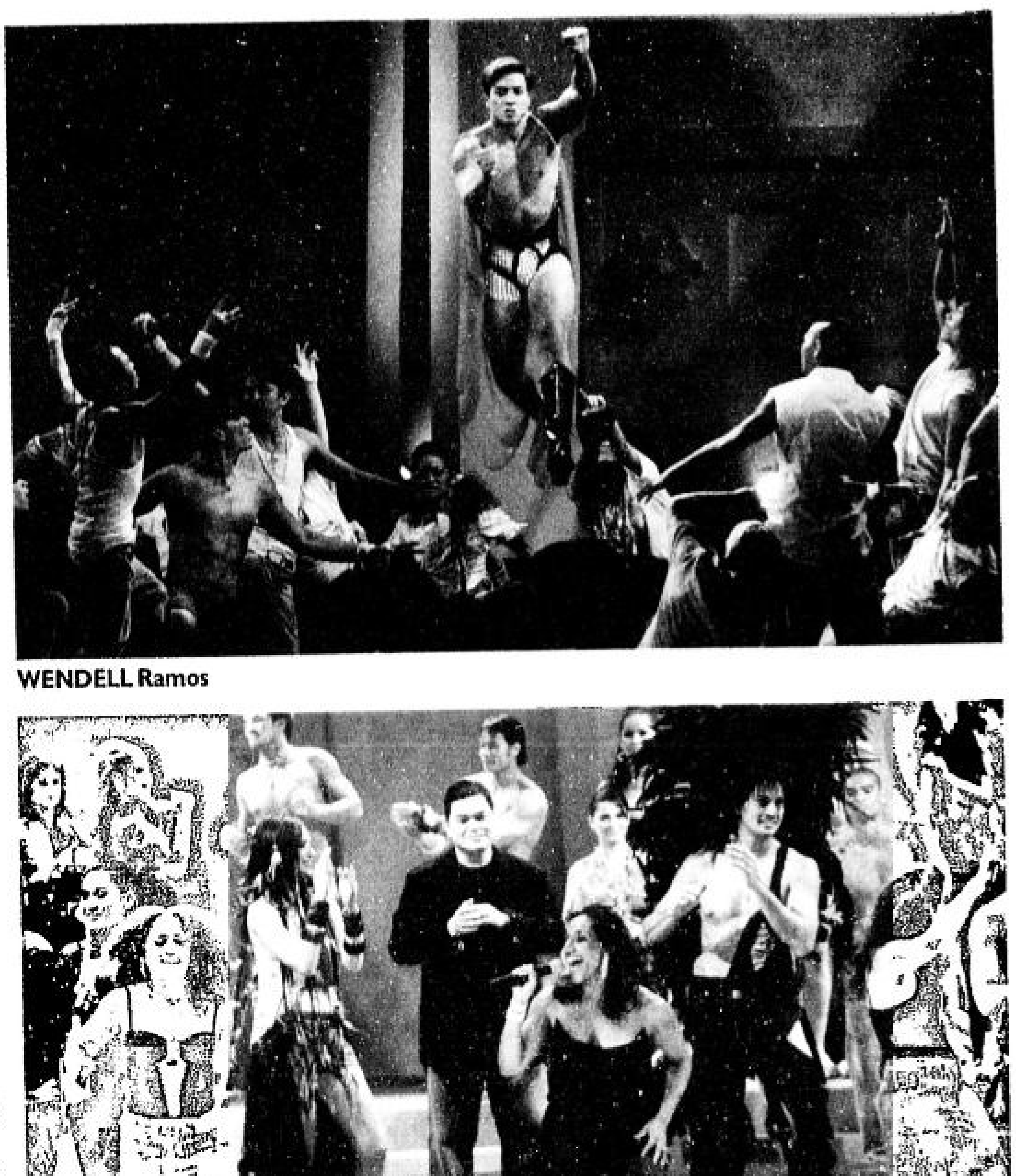
Perhaps, in an attempt to connect with young audiences (read: people who weren't born yet when the movie made a splash in the early 1980s), she kept her soundtrack repertoire to "Manila Sound" classics by Hotdog and VST and Co.

## Striking images

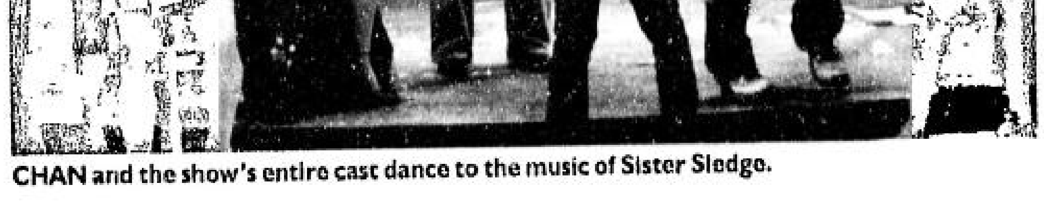
The pros, of course, were also able to conjure striking images. Eala's all-black homage to punk, for instance, was more couture than street fashion, with models wearing Mohawk wigs, chunky boots, studded bracelets and belts and lots of chains.

Diaz-Ramos also came up with all-black pieces that featured Victorian-inspired corsets, argyle gloves, ruffled collars, lacy ribbons and dangling garter belts. Ortiz and Lau-

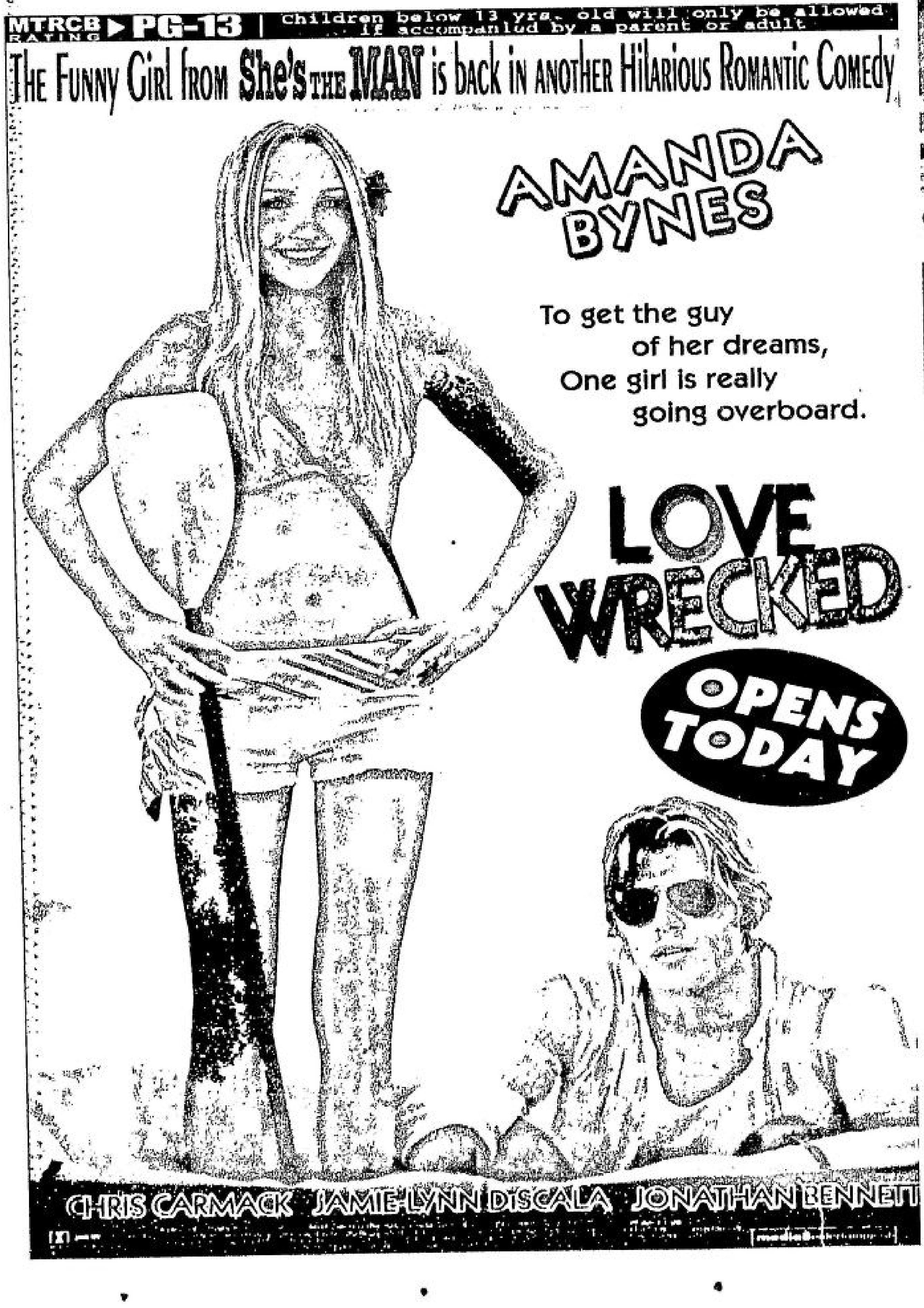
SPONTANEOUS/ C3



WENDELL Ramos



CHAN and the show's entire cast dance to the music of Sister Sledge.



MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 | Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult

THE FUNNY GIRL FROM She's THE MAN IS BACK IN ANOTHER HILARIOUS ROMANTIC COMEDY

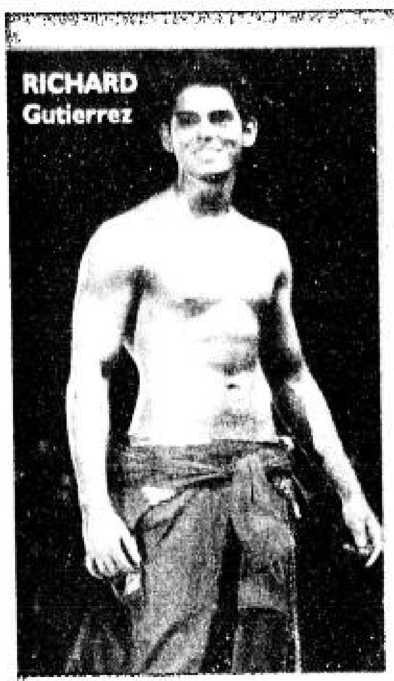
AMANDA BYNES

To get the guy
of her dreams,
One girl is really
going overboard.

LOVE WRECKED

OPENS TODAY

CHRIS CARMACK JAMIE-LYNN DISCALA JONATHAN BENNETT


RICHARD Gutierrez

RUFA Mae Quinto
MANILA SUN

GARY Dulatas

ROCKY Salumbides

ANDREW Wolff

IAGO Raterta

# Spontaneous combustion

From page C2

rel, on the other hand, opted for color and shine.

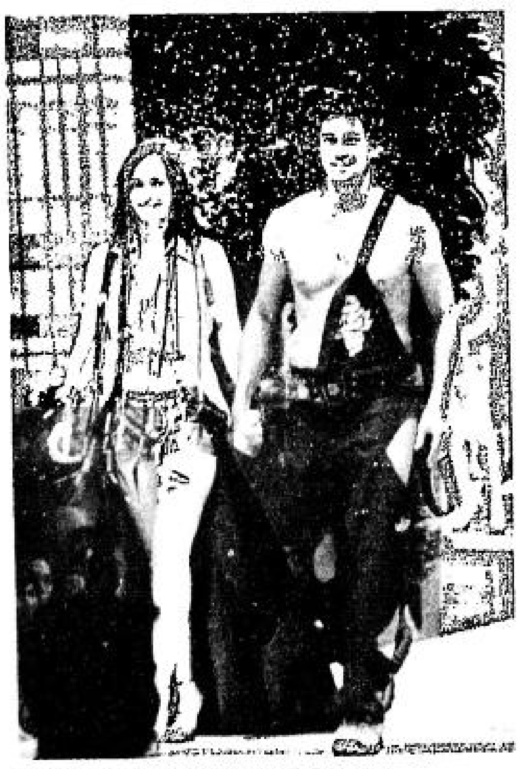
While Ortiz channeled 1960s fashion with Pucci-inspired prints, bright leggings, beaded plackets and collars, Laurel opted for 1980s styling with beaded and cropped tops and bottoms made of stretch and striped fabric.

Carmona wisely saved the best part—the brilliant Samson's reworked, fused and studded denim pieces—for last. The segment also made for a fitting finale, as it featured the brand's celebrity endorsers such as Ocampo, Ramos, Milby, Quinto, Marudo, Gutierrez and the Gomez couple.

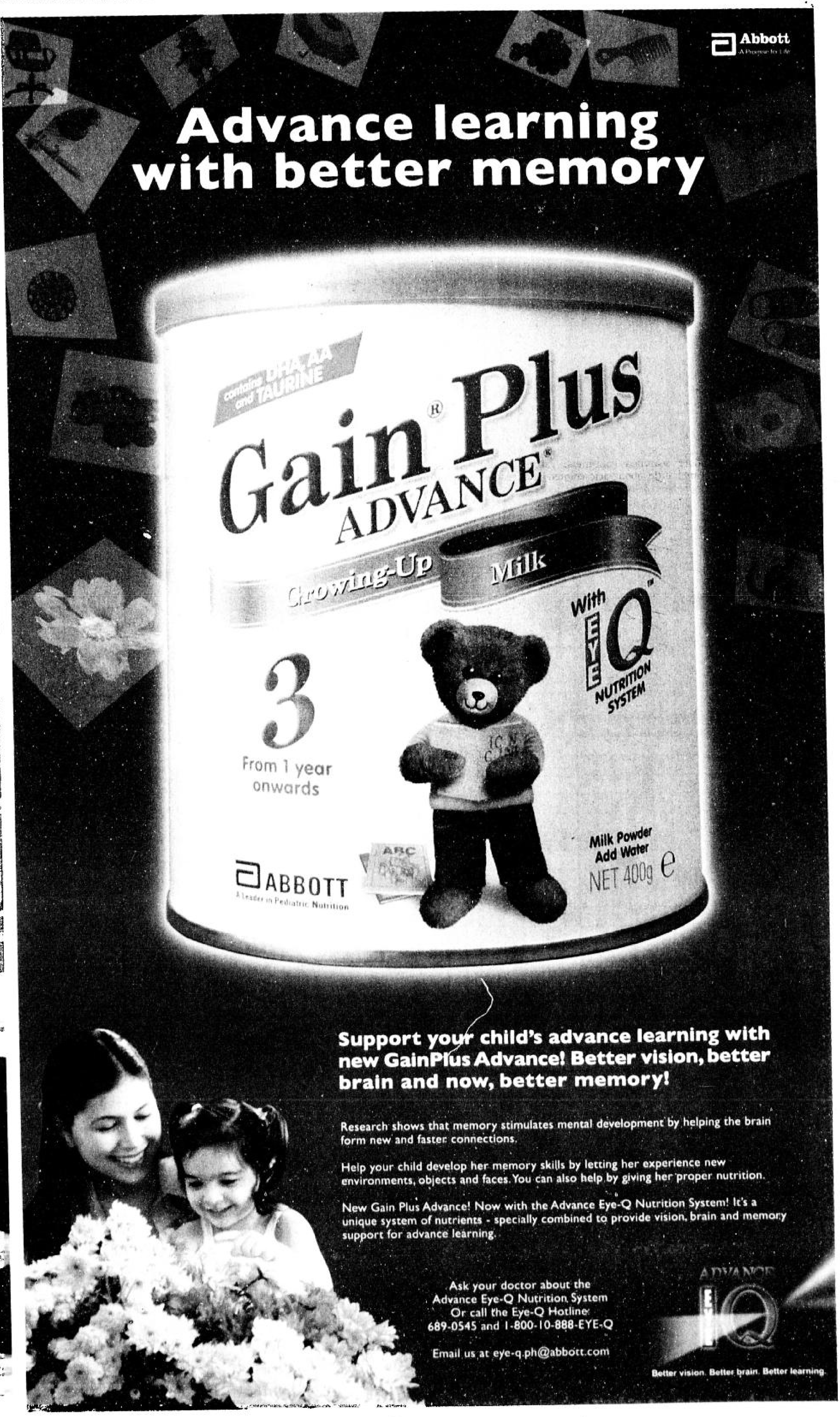
Amid bursts of fireworks and sprinkles of confetti, not a few fans shrieked with excitement as they caught sight of their favorite stars anew. To quote a line from one of Madonna's recent dance hits, everybody seemed all hung up on Bench.

*E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph*

JOHN Estrada and Keanna Reeves


LUCY Torres and Richard Gomez

JOHN Pratts and Shaina Magdayao


Abbott
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Support your child's advance learning with new GainPlus Advance! Better vision, better brain and now, better memory!

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Help your child develop her memory skills by letting her experience new environments, objects and faces. You can also help by giving her proper nutrition.

New Gain Plus Advance! Now with the Advance Eye-Q Nutrition System! It's a unique system of nutrients - specially combined to provide vision, brain and memory support for advance learning.

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Advance Eye-Q Nutrition System
Or call the Eye-Q Hotline:
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Email us at eye-q.ph@abbott.com

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Gain Plus
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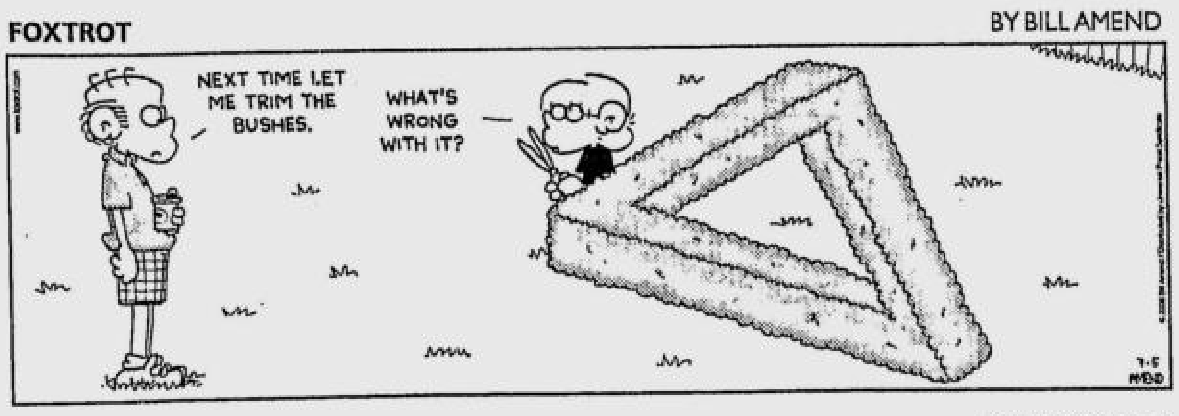
Growing-Up Milk
With EYE IQ NUTRITION SYSTEM
3
From 1 year onwards
ABBOTT
A Leader in Pediatric Nutrition
Milk Powder Add Water
NET 400g e
ADVANCE EYE Q

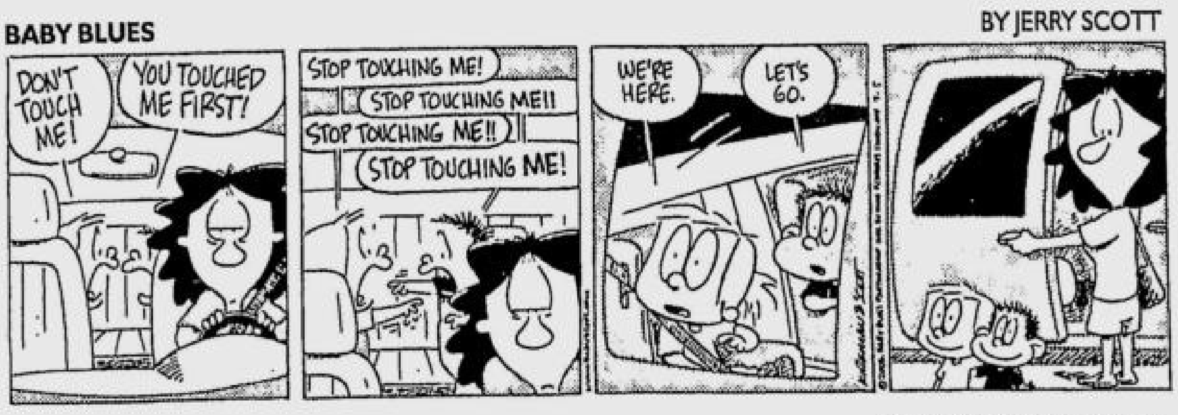
**FOXTROT**

BY BILL AMEND


NEXT TIME LET ME TRIM THE BUSHES.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH IT?
7-5

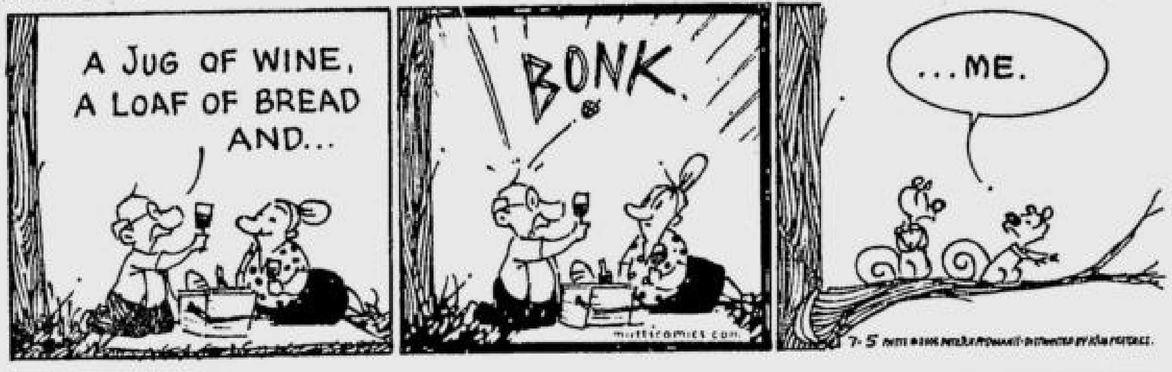
**BABY BLUES**

BY JERRY SCOTT


DON'T TOUCH ME!
YOU TOUCHED ME FIRST!
STOP TOUCHING ME!
STOP TOUCHING ME!!
STOP TOUCHING ME!!
STOP TOUCHING ME!
WE'RE HERE.
LET'S GO.

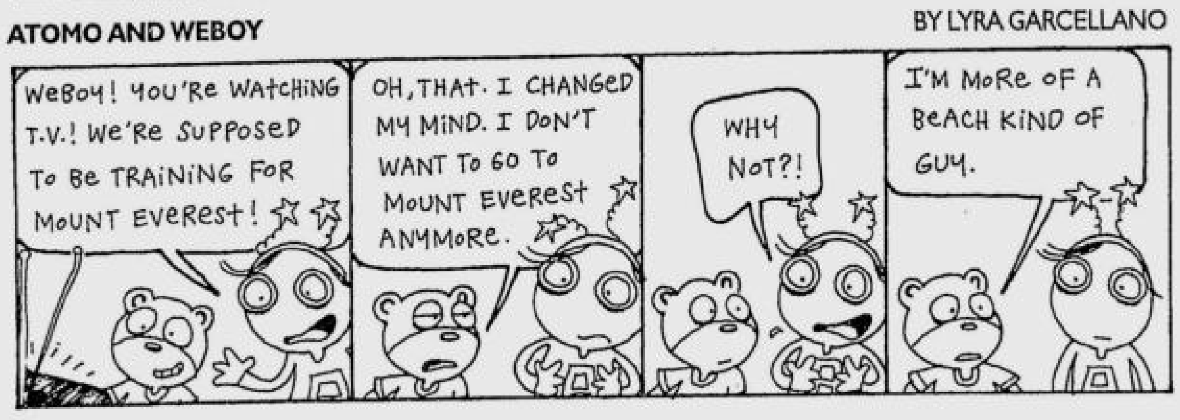
**MUTTS**

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


A JUG OF WINE, A LOAF OF BREAD AND...
BONK
...ME.
mutticomics.com
7-5

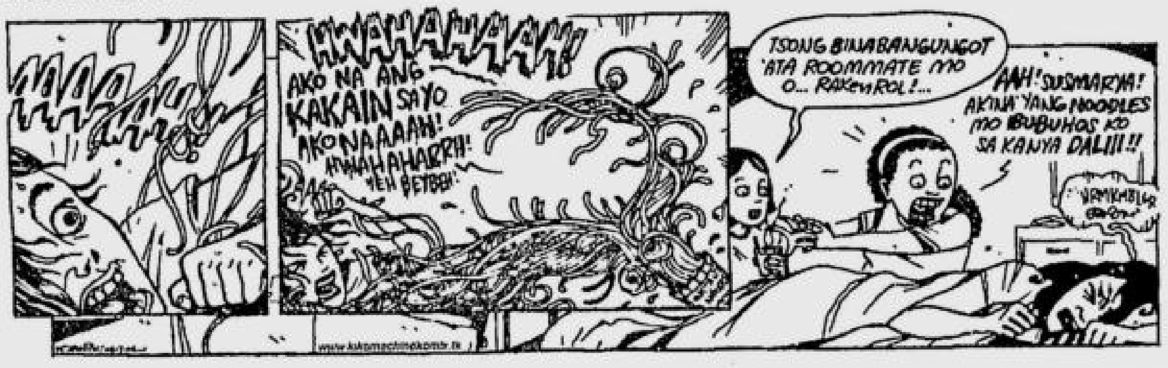
**ATOMO AND WEBOY**

BY LYRA GARCELLANO


WeBoy! You're WATCHING T.V.! We're SUPPOSED To Be TRAINING FOR MOUNT EVEREST!
OH, THAT. I CHANGED MY MIND. I DON'T WANT To GO To MOUNT EVEREST ANYMORE.
WHY NOT?!
I'M MORE OF A BEACH KIND OF GUY.

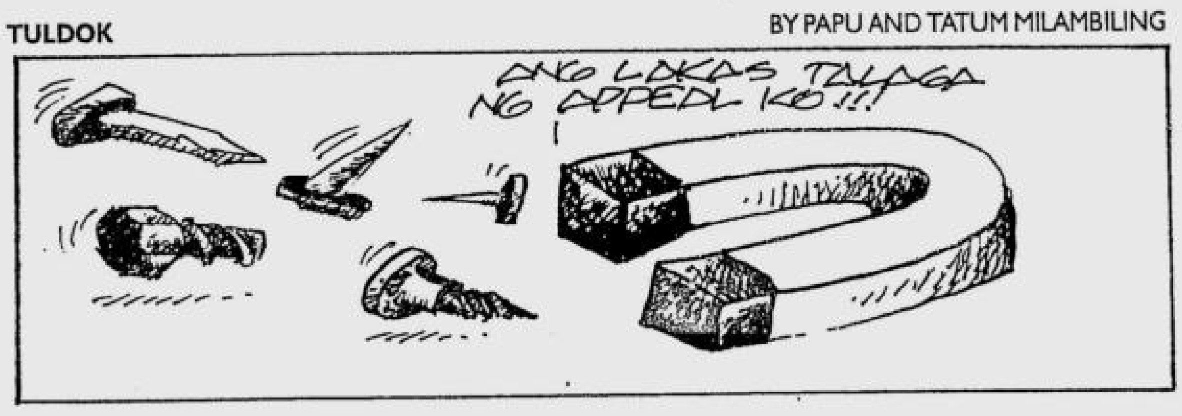
**KIKO MACHINE**

BY MANIX ABRERA


HWAHAHAHAAH!
AKO NA ANG KAKAIN SAYO AKO NAAAAH! AWAHAHAHARRH!
TSONG BINABANGUNGOT 'ATA ROOMMATE MO O... RAKenROL!...
AAH! SUSMARYA! AKINA YANG NOODLES MO IBUBUHOS KO SA KANYA DALI!!!
www.kikomachinekomix.tk

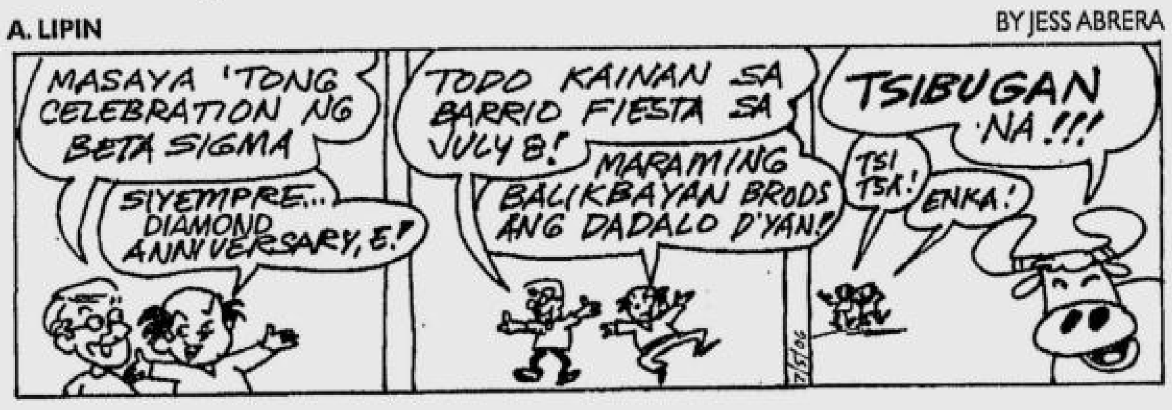
**TULDOK**

BY PAPU AND TATUM MILAMBILING


ANG LAKAS TALAGA NG APPEAL KO!!!

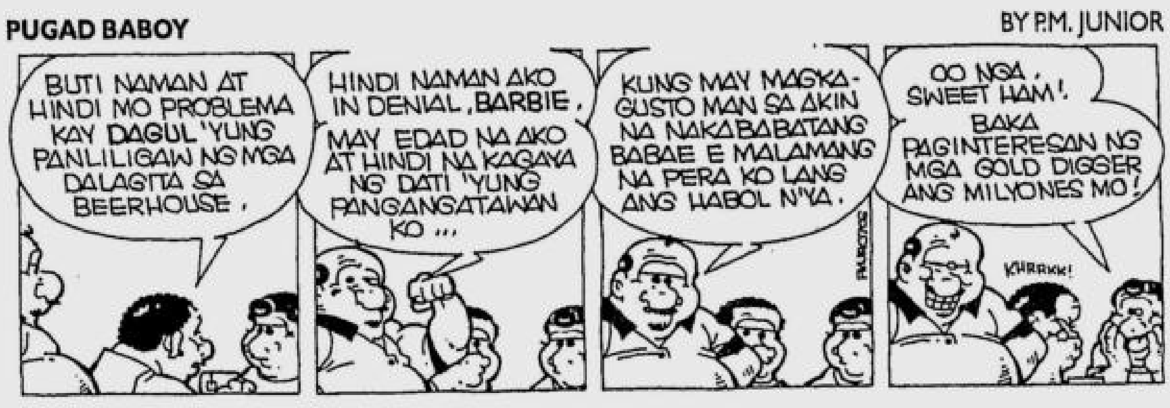
**A. LIPIN**

BY JESS ABRERA


MASAYA 'TONG CELEBRATION NG BETA SIGMA
SIYEMPRE... DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY, E!
TODO KAINAN SA BARRIO FIESTA SA JULY 8!
MARAMING BALIKBAYAN BRODS ANG DADALO D'YAN!
TSIBUGAN NA!!!
TSI TSA!
ENKA!
7/5/06

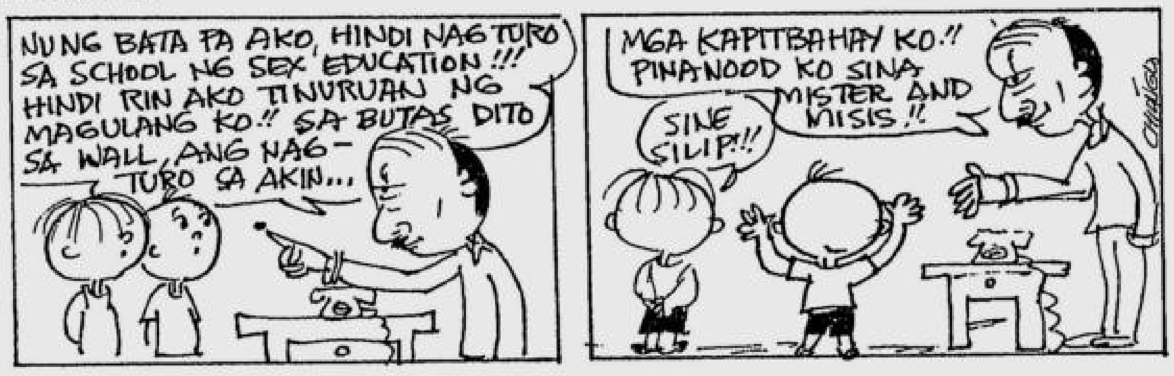
**PUGAD BABOY**

BY P.M. JUNIOR


BUTI NAMAN AT HINDI MO PROBLEMA KAY DAGUL 'YUNG PANLILIGAW NG MGA DALAGITA SA BEERHOUSE.
HINDI NAMAN AKO IN DENIAL, BARBIE. MAY EDAD NA AKO AT HINDI NA KAGAYA NG DATI 'YUNG PANGANGATAWAN KO...
KUNG MAY MAGKA-GUSTO MAN SA AKIN NA NAKABABATANG BABAE E MALAMANG NA PERA KO LANG ANG HABOL N'YA.
OO NGA, SWEET HAM! BAKA PAGINTERESAN NG MGA GOLD DIGGER ANG MILYONES MO!
KHRRKK!

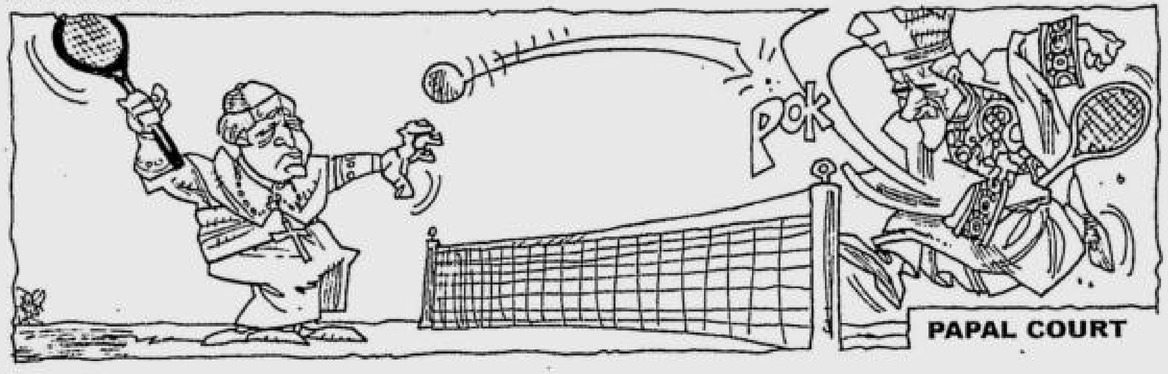
**LOVEKNOTS**

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


NUNG BATA PA AKO, HINDI NAGTURO SA SCHOOL NG SEX EDUCATION!!! HINDI RIN AKO TINURUAN NG MAGULANG KO!! SA BUTAS DITO SA WALL, ANG NAG-TURO SA AKIN...
MGA KAPITBAHAY KO!! PINANOOD KO SINA MISTER AND MISIS!!
SINE SILIP!!
CHIONGLO

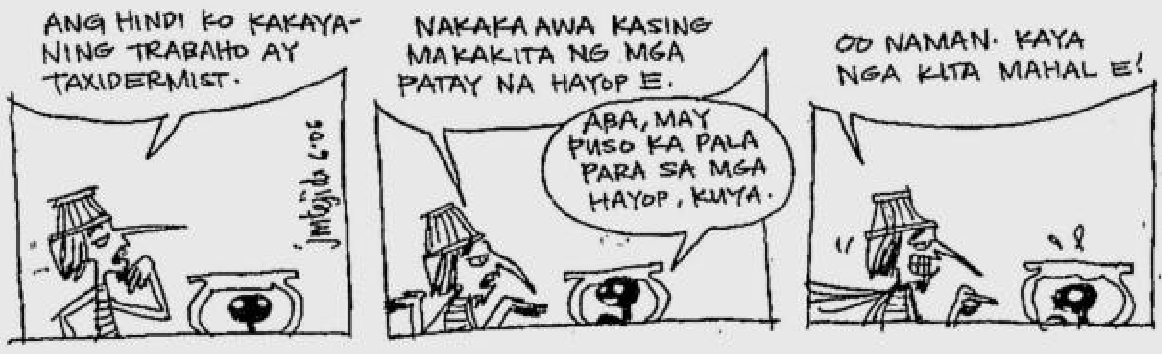
**DIVINE COMEDY**

BY STEVEN PABALINAS


POK
PAPAL COURT

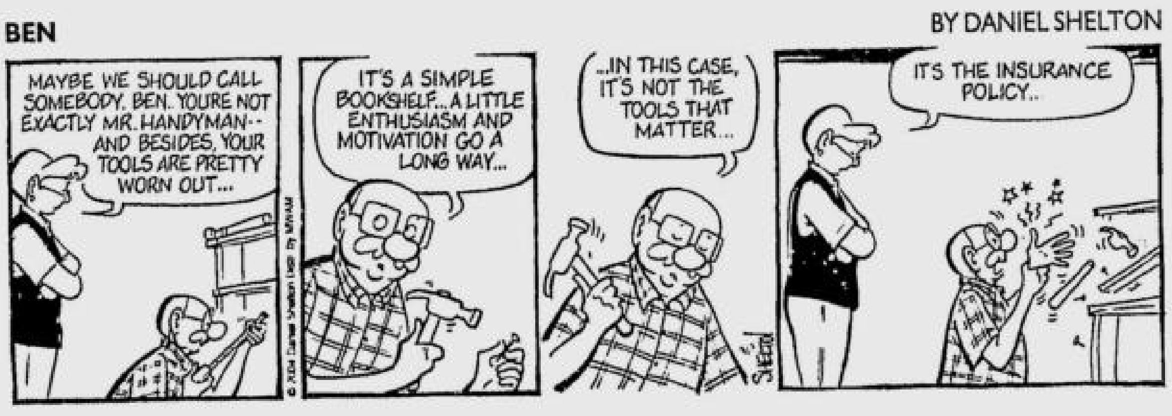
**MIKROKOSMOS**

BY JOMIKE TEJIDO

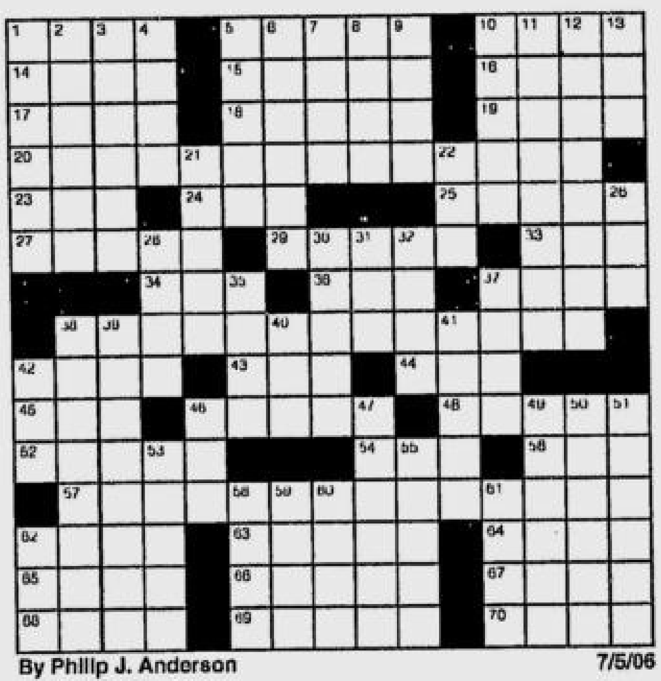

ANG HINDI KO KAKAYA-NING TRABAHO AY TAXIDERMIST.
NAKAKA AWA KASING MAKAKITA NG MGA PATAY NA HAYOP E.
ABA, MAY PUSO KA PALA PARA SA MGA HAYOP, KUYA.
OO NAMAN. KAYA NGA KITA MAHAL E!
jmtejido 6.06

**BEN**

BY DANIEL SHELTON


MAYBE WE SHOULD CALL SOMEBODY, BEN. YOU'RE NOT EXACTLY MR. HANDYMAN-- AND BESIDES, YOUR TOOLS ARE PRETTY WORN OUT...
IT'S A SIMPLE BOOKSHELF... A LITTLE ENTHUSIASM AND MOTIVATION GO A LONG WAY...
...IN THIS CASE, IT'S NOT THE TOOLS THAT MATTER...
IT'S THE INSURANCE POLICY..
SHELTON

## DAILY CROSSWORD



By Philip J. Anderson
Portland, OR

7/5/06

**ACROSS**

1 Robin Cook bestseller
5 "Come Back, Little __"
10 Have the lead
14 Arabian garb
15 Legendary football coach
16 Ms. Bombeck
17 Breather
18 Soap plant
19 Quarter-moon tide
20 Cartoonist and a character
23 Pedro's uncle
24 Director Spike
25 Old-time peep show
27 Composer Erik
29 Coronet
33 Addams Family member
34 __ Paulo
36 Vardalos of "My Big Fat Greek Wedding"
37 "Them" monsters
38 Cartoonist and a character
42 First name in cartoon skunks
43 __ Dawn Chong
44 Bigwig in D.C.
45 Swiss peak
46 Pub game
48 Marsh growth
52 At hand
54 Circle segment
56 Teacher's org.
57 Cartoonist and a character
62 District
63 Liqueur flavor
64 Brewery supply
65 Chip in
66 Trait carriers
67 Ripening factor
68 Nagger
69 Borden's cow
70 Roll-call call

**DOWN**

1 Gem weights
2 Polyp colonies on wharves
3 Team totem
4 Movie terrier
5 Form
6 Mel Gibson film
7 "The Time Machine" race
8 Formal dance
9 Toward open waters
10 Medicinal plant
11 Dendrologist's dater
12 Almond liqueur
13 Seance sound
21 Kilt feature
22 Bikini part
26 Mork and ALF
28 Archipelago dot
30 Mooring basin
31 Feel poorly
32 Mantas
35 Creole veggie
37 Top-rated
38 Steak order designation
39 Names
40 Musical gift
41 Roost
42 Pol's cash provider
46 Society gal
47 Third-generation Japanese-American
49 Employ
50 Casino employee
51 "Nausea" writer
53 Shooting sport
55 "Harlem Nights" co-star
58 Violent anger
59 Turow title
60 Takes the gold
61 Asian nursemaid
62 Shoot with a ray gun

**Tuesday's Puzzle Solved**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| C | A | R | B | ■ | C | A | R | O | L | ■ | B | O | S | H |
| O | B | O | E | ■ | A | M | O | R | E | ■ | U | C | L | A |
| B | U | S | T | E | R | B | U | S | T | ■ | N | E | A | T |
| S | T | F | A | M | ■ | L | E | O | S | ■ | K | A | T | E |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ | I | D | E | S | ■ | O | P | E | N | E | D |
| T | O | P | P | L | E | D | ■ | P | U | R | R | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| A | L | L | A | Y | S | ■ | N | O | T | E | B | O | O | K |
| P | I | E | S | ■ | ■ | M | O | W | ■ | ■ | U | R | G | E |
| S | N | A | T | C | H | E | D | ■ | C | A | N | A | R | Y |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | O | P | A | L | ■ | T | A | C | K | L | E | S |
| A | M | O | R | A | L | ■ | P | I | T | T | ■ | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| R | U | M | P | ■ | I | P | O | D | ■ | O | T | H | E | R |
| A | R | E | A | ■ | B | A | R | B | E | R | B | A | R | B |
| B | A | G | S | ■ | U | N | T | I | L | ■ | A | L | A | I |
| S | L | A | T | ■ | T | E | S | T | S | ■ | R | O | S | S |

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7/5/06

## HOROSCOPE

**YOU BORN TODAY:** Somehow, you always seem to lead an exciting, fascinating life! In part this is because you seek out stimulating activities. (You hate to be bored.) You have excellent people skills and are extremely persuasive. A stable partner can stabilize things for you. This year you will be focused on partnerships and your closest friendships.

**Birthdate of:** Robbie Robertson, musician; Katherine Helmond, actress; Kathryn Erbe, actress.

**ARIES (March 21 to April 19):** You might be tempted to take refuge in drugs or drinking too much today. Actually, this will only make things worse. Many people feel confused and discouraged today—you're not alone

**TAURUS (April 20 to May 20):** If you're unsure about how to do something at home or within your family dynamic, do nothing. This is a confusing day for everyone. (These things happen.)

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 20):** Encounters with others are discouraging today. In part, this could be because others are not honest with you, or vice versa. Keep your nose clean!

**CANCER (June 21 to July 22):** Stay alert during all financial transactions today. Count your change. Keep track of where your money is. Some kind of confusion or deceit could create loss. (Not good!)

**LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22):** Your physical energy is low today. This is very temporary. With Mars in your sign, you're actually very strong now. But Neptune is zapping your strength today!

**VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22):** Self-doubt and discouragement could cripple your actions today. Don't let this happen. Everyone is second-guessing themselves today. (It's one of those days.)

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22):** If you think a friend or a member of a group is doing something fishy, that person probably is. Trust your gut judgments today. Quite a few people are doing things with sleight of hand.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21):** You might be tempted to go to extremes in order to avoid an unpleasant encounter with authority figures today. You might want to hide. You'd be better off facing the music. Nip this in the bud.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21):** Don't doubt your ideals or your belief system today. A certain planetary aspect encourages this. It will pass very soon

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19):** Put your cards on the table. Keep everything very much aboveboard today when dealing with the property of others or anything you share with someone else. (No short cuts.)

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18):** You might feel deceived by a partner or someone close to you. (This feels like a betrayal.) Possibly it's a misunderstanding. Be tolerant and forgiving with others.

**PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20):** Double-check all messages at work today. It's very easy to get important data mixed up. You might be better off working alone today. However, you might not get credit for what you do.

## CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

**Conceptis Sudoku** by Dave Green

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | | 7 | | | | | | 6 |
| | | 8 | | 6 | 1 | | | |
| | | | | | | | 9 | 5 |
| | 4 | | | | | | | |
| | 8 | | 2 | 9 | 6 | | 3 | |
| | | | | | | | 5 | |
| 2 | 7 | | | | | | | |
| | | | 9 | 3 | | 1 | | |
| 6 | | | | | | 4 | | 3 |

Difficulty Level ★★★

7/05

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### HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9.
Tips and program at www.sudoku.com

**Answer to previous puzzle**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 7 | 9 | 8 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 3 |
| 6 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 2 |
| 2 | 8 | 3 | 6 | 9 | 1 | 5 | 7 | 4 |
| 8 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 6 |
| 4 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 8 | 7 | 3 | 5 |
| 7 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 8 |
| 3 | 2 | 8 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 7 |
| 1 | 4 | 7 | 5 | 8 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 9 |
| 9 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 8 | 1 |

Difficulty Level ★★

# All of us can be heroes

## Gawad Kalinga is showing the way for all Filipinos to work for the betterment of our country

**By Valerie Tan**
*2bU! Contributor*

RECENTLY, I WENT TO A GAWAD KALINGA seminar in MTQ. Gawad Kalinga 777 is an organization that aims to provide a solution to poverty in the Philippines by building 700,000 homes in 7,000 communities in seven years. The homes come complete with a school and clinic in each community.

At first, I felt really out of place in the seminar. I was still in my PE uniform and I was probably the only teenager there. My cousin had asked me to come along to keep her company during the seminar; she was required to attend it for her class. She told me that the Englishman who sold all his possessions and came to live in the Philippines, Dylan Wilks, was going to be there.

This man had always made me curious. Why on earth would the ninth richest man in the United Kingdom give up everything he had and live in the Philippines? Let's face it, I thought, of all the places he could have decided to live in, why did he choose our country?

But first, there was Gawad Kalinga, of which I was really impressed. It had already set up over a thousand houses in different areas of the Philippines, turning slums into beautiful homes. Neighbors helped build each other's houses, together with GK volunteers. I was so amazed at the genius of it all. Finally, a system that worked, I thought to myself. I had to admit that the concept was so simple that you couldn't understand why nobody had thought of it sooner. I was impressed, all right, but not inspired.

### Alarming passion

Enter Dylan Wilks. Like everything in this talk, he was not what I had expected. I envisioned an old man who was looking for a reasonable cause to blow all his accumulated fortune, or at least someone in his 40s who looked like he had burned out.

But no, Wilks was a young, energetic Brit who hadn't even reached his 30s! I was alarmed at his passion for GK777. I'd assumed someone as young as he would be all fun, fun, fun, or all about success in his life. But here he was, millions of miles away from his hometown, encouraging us to join his cause. He said he had realized there was a difference between pleasure and happiness. Pleasure always needed fuel, you always needed to recharge it, like buying clothes, toys, electronics and whatnot. But happiness, he said, was so much deeper. That was what sparked him to look for organizations around the world that would try to provide a solution to poverty.

It was only in the Philippines, and only with Gawad Kalinga, where he thought people had found a proper solution.

When he returned to the UK, he said, he looked at his brand-new BMW and he felt sick. Just one of the wheels of this car could buy two houses in the Philippines. Wilks sold his car and was able to make 80 houses out of the money.

As I listened to him talk on how amazing the Philippines was, I couldn't help but feel a pang of guilt. Here I was, a Filipino, sitting in Philippine soil and listening to a foreigner say how beautiful my country was. Obviously, something was wrong here. As I sat there, I couldn't help but think: this is a man with not a drop of Filipino blood in him, and yet he was speaking as if he'd be insulted if he were anything but.

### Wretched

I felt wretched. What kind of a citizen was I to have to be encouraged to help my fellow countrymen by a foreigner? I listened to him talk about my country, my people. I couldn't help but feel a sting in my eyes as I listened to him speaking with such pride, such love and such passion for Filipinos. A passion which, I was ashamed to admit, I didn't have.

"Filipinos are very special," Wilks told us. "They have something very unique about them that makes them stand out."

When you drop a piece of gold on the ground, he said, after 400 years when you pick it up, you won't see the gold. You see the dirt. Filipinos are all pieces of gold. But because of all the crises in our lives, when we look at ourselves, all we see is the dirt.

Wilks also told us of this 10-year-old Filipino boy who lived in Texas. He believed in GK777 so much that he thought if he sold his drawings to everyone he met, he would be able to set up a house. The boy was not only able to donate one house, but three, as well as a school.

Well, if he could do it—and all the way from Texas—I could do it.

Gawad Kalinga has inspired me to look for the gold. I want to help rebuild the nation, unite the Filipinos and ultimately rid ourselves of the plague of poverty. Gawad Kalinga has shown me that this is possible. With the spirit of *bayanihan* by our side, I believe we can rise again. Ninoy Aquino said the Filipino is worth dying for, but he is worth living for as well. As the GK777 motto says, "Every Filipino can be a hero."

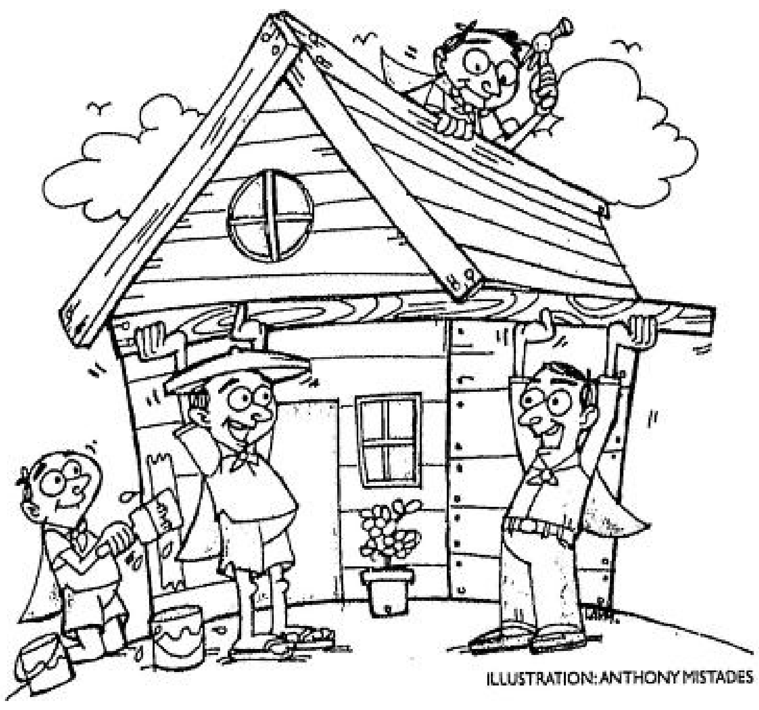

ILLUSTRATION: ANTHONY MISTADES

**"BUM ROCKS" pays tribute to rock 'n roll.**

# Rock your world

CATCH BUM EQUIPMENT'S FASHION concert on July 7, 6 p.m., at the SM City Open Carpark featuring ace endorser Danilo Barrios, LJ Reyes, together with its newest image models Iwa Moto, Rico Barreira and Glaiza de Castro. Titled "Bum Rocks," the show will also have 6cyclemind as the show's guest band.

Bum Equipment, the label for trendy and funky individuals who dare to be different, introduces its latest collection of cutting-edge pieces. Bum Rocks pays tribute to the decades-old musical genre that has been celebrated the world over—rock 'n roll.

Key pieces include cotton tees in basic blacks. Whites and hints of red make for a perfect statement with prints that are both catchy and intricately designed. Midriff tops and baby tees for ladies are sexy, daring and takes on interesting fabric treatment and detailing.

Tribal emblems dominate this season's patterns in contrasting colors. Adding an interesting feminine twist to these pieces are subtle appliqués of lace and studded embellishments. Bum Equipment's washed-out tees also sport added colors such as cool blues, refreshing greens and sweet pinks.

The bomber jacket completes these rockstar outfits. The usual army or denim jacket is redefined by de-stressing them and utilizing Old English patchwork for added texture. One can also opt to layer light long-sleeved shirts to create urban ensembles.

2006 DISCOVER HONG KONG YEAR

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There's no better time to visit and discover everything this city has to offer! Besides exciting new attractions, mega events and an incredible array of international cuisine, Hong Kong has a number of educational attractions for children like museums and theme parks such as the newly opened **Hong Kong Wetland Park.** So start planning today. Visit the **Hong Kong Shopping Festival.** And watch your family become a bunch of shopaholics!

2006 DISCOVER HONG KONG YEAR

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HONG KONG

# Skin-and-body whiteners in a jiffy

These products can make your skin look fairer, perfectly complementing your neutral-colored dress

Lora Gabol

MY SKIN COLOR IS SO pale, you'd think I was the last person who would slap and slather on whitening creams and lotions. Add to that my perpetual aspiration to be tan, and there's your license to believe that you will never find any whitening product in my cabinet.

But I've decided to join the lightening bandwagon for a practical reason: I'm attending a friend's wedding in a month and am planning to wear a neutral-colored dress that requires a luminous, translucent complexion.

My kind of "fair" is in no way luminous, at least right now. It's more of the kind of whiteness that compels people to ask if I've gotten enough sleep or if I'm on the verge of influenza. In short, I am more pale than fair, and I want to turn my complexion the other way around.

Lucky for me I already have tons of products in my own collection to choose from, and the only step I need to take is to actually start using them!

## Face

Due to an unfortunate incident with a high-end whitening line, I am now most careful at choosing what will touch everything above my neck. One of the few that made the cut is my all-time go-to skincare range, Shu Uemura Moisture Recovery. So when the geniuses up at the Shu HQ released the new and improved White Recovery EX line, I was more than happy to treat myself to it.

After cleansing, I start with a cotton pad saturated with the Whitening Lotion swept all over my face and neck. During the day, when my skin is prone to oiling up (especially in higher temperatures), I use the Refresh variety for a tingly, cooling wake-me-up. At bedtime (when there's eight-hour air-conditioning that won't cause my pores to produce yucky grease), I switch to moisture-packed Enrich that instantly smoothens and plumps my skin.

PAPAYA
HERBAL SOAP

Then I take two pumps of the Whitening Essence, a concentrated, powerful serum that erases dark spots and discoloration with regular use, and massage it onto my skin, concentrating more on my post-zit marks. The lightness of the product betrays its richness, so don't apply more than you should.

Next is moisturizing. The instructions on the products say both should be used, one after the other, but it's left to your discretion and your skin type if you want to layer them or use one at a time. Because I'm not too keen on having too many products on my face, I use only the lighter Whitening Emulsion during the day. I love this watery moisturizer, which is smooth and non-sticky. I mix equal parts of the emulsion and light liquid foundation (I like L'Oreal True Match in Golden Beige)—instant tinted moisturizer!

At night, I use the Whitening Cream, a surprisingly fresh cream-gel that seems to lull me to sleep with its aromatic scent.

I would recommend it for those with drier skin during the day—it's richer than the emulsion but is nowhere near greasy.

Once a week, I use the White Recovery EX Mask for a 15-minute brightening boost.

## Body

St. Ives
Apricot Scrub

For my bath, I've started using Likas Papaya soap, a true whitening classic that's still around because it works. I try to follow it up with a scrubbing session with a loofah or bath lily, as I'm not a very big fan of bathing with just soap and want the shower-gel experience.

Once or twice a week, I use St. Ives Whitening Apricot Scrub, especially on my elbows and knees. This gentle exfoliant is definitely an all-around product!

Though not always a big fan of body lotion (especially when it's too hot), I'm very comfortable using L'oreal Body Expertise Whitening Lotion, which doesn't leave a shiny, oily film on my body. I've also noticed how my skin not only looks more translucent, but is much smoother.

In the evening, I go the extra-mile by using whitening care up to my armpits! I'm now a big fan of Nivea Night Wightening Deodorant, an ingenious product that cares for your pits while you sleep. That's just thinking of everything, now, isn't it!

Of course, for the rest of my body, I use Nivea Night Whitening Body Lotion for its comfortable, cushy texture that's instantly absorbed by my skin.

Shu Uemura is avaialable at Rustan's Makati and Shangri-La Plaza; Likas, St. Ives, L'oreal and Nivea at PCX, Watson's and department stores.

*E-mail the author at lora_gahol@yahoo.com*

LANDER Bubble Bath

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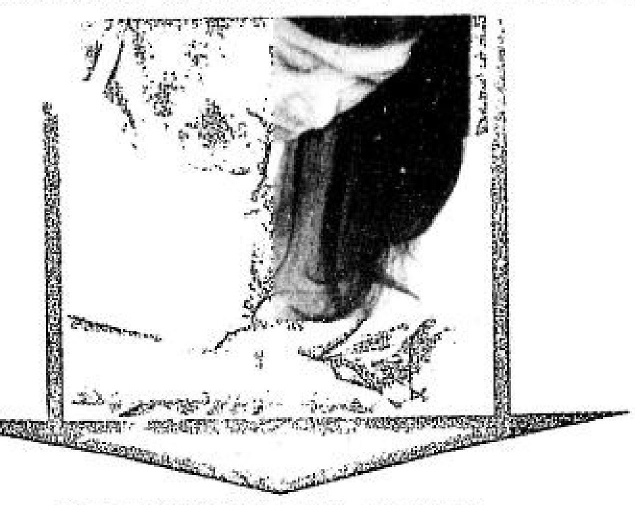

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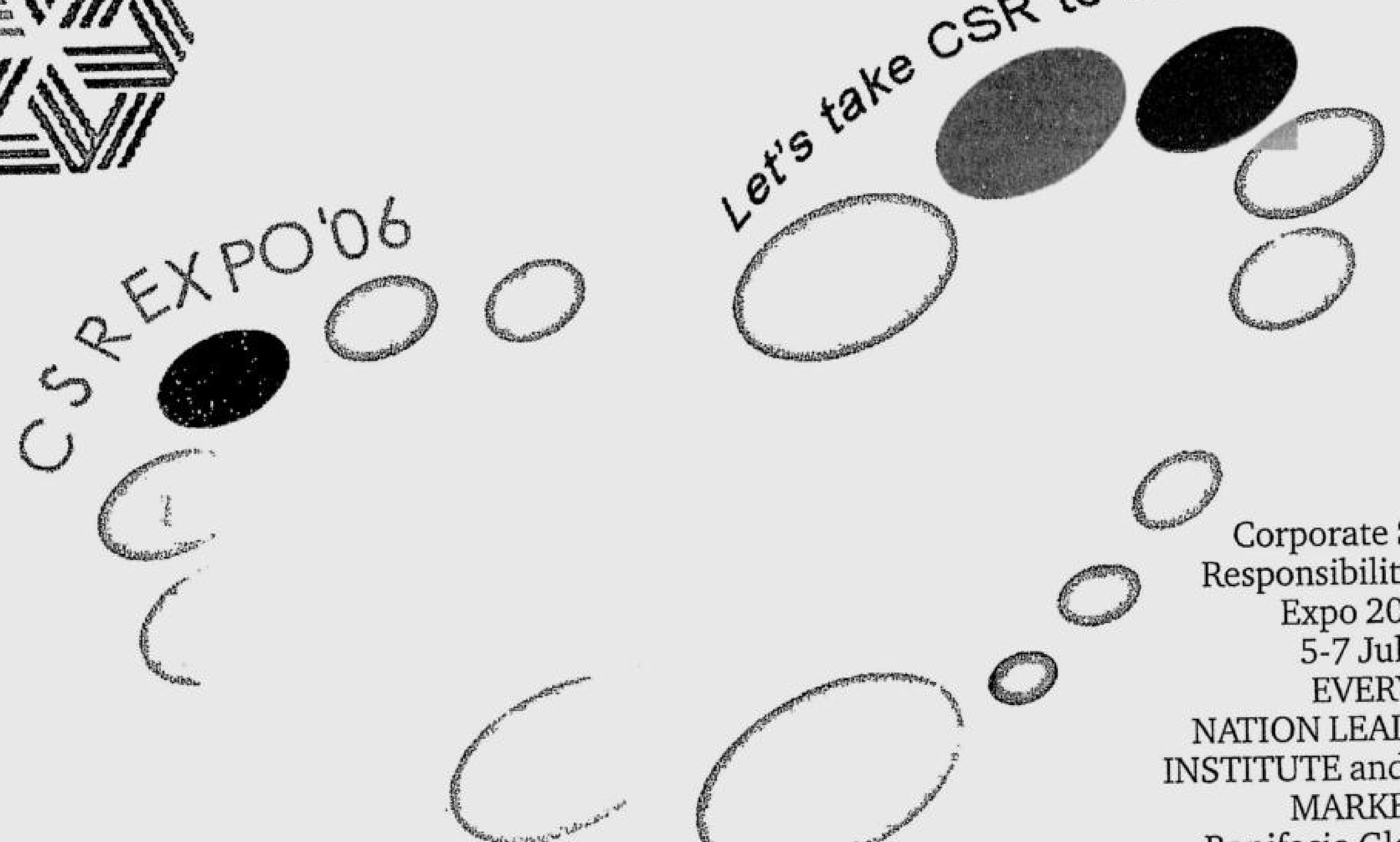
# League of Corporate Foundations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# LCF takes CSR to the heart of business

BUSINESS HAS BEEN USUALLY viewed as dog-eat-dog, a constant competition and positioning to get the ultimate goal of profit. But this view is now being challenged and redefined in the business communities all over the world, as companies realize that more than making profits, business must be able to effect positive changes in society trough corporate social responsibility (CSR).

Although definitions vary among companies and practitioners, CSR has been defined by the World Business Council for Sustainable Development as "the continuing commitment by business to behave ethically and contribute to economic development while improving the quality of life of the workforce and their families as well as of the local community and society at large."

In the Philippines, CSR can be traced to the Filipinos' psyche, according to Lydia Sarmiento-Enrile, the League of Corporate Foundations (LCF) advisory council member and chairperson of Sarmiento Foundation.

"Giving to others and helping others is very much a part of our culture. While we want to earn for our family, we treat our employees as part of our family and we view the community as our extended family," Sarmiento said.

"How do you define CSR? We were doing it way before; we do it by example until a technical term was coined," she added.

## CSR evolution

The unique and progressive Philippine CSR experience will be the focus of the LCF CSR Expo 2006 "Let's Take CSR to Heart" on July 5-7, 2006 at the Every Nation Leadership Institute, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig (between Market! Market! and International School Manila). LCF will engage all levels of business-CEOs, middle management and rank and file employees-to embrace CSR as part of doing business.

Like the LCF organization itself, the theme and thrusts of the annual Expo has evolved over the years, as more companies join LCF to unite for the common cause of giving system-wide business solutions to social problems. Since its formal inception in 1996, LCF has helped transform the competitive nature of business by finding a common, uniting goal: doing good by synergizing programs on education, health, environment, enterprise development, arts and culture, disaster relief and management, community development, capacity building, advocacy and institution building.

"We know the language of the company and we know the language of the development society. And we believe we can bridge the gap," LCF president and Mirant Philippines Foundation executive director Bobby Calingo said.

On July 2003, LCF held its first CSR Expo "Ka Partner Ka!" in honor of its partnership with various sectors of society. The 2004 CSR Expo "May Bukas Ka, Bata!" further aligned LCF's main thrust of ensuring the future of the next generation of Filipino leaders. By 2005, LCF moved CSR to a new level and held the CSR Expo "Beyond Giving: Business Solutions to Social Problems" to signal its move to go beyond dole-outs and simple donations to sustainable and system-wide business solutions.

Now the CSR Expo 2006, with the theme "Let's take CSR to Heart", aims to incorporate CSR in all levels of businesses in the Philippines by involving the CEOs, middle management and rank-and-file employees.

"At the CSR Expo 2006, the LCF shares with its members and the public its unique, ten years-worth of direct experiences in building communities and brands through sustainable and strategic CSR," CSR Expo 2006 chairperson and Petron Foundation executive director Malu Erni said.

"CSR is a practice that continues to be defined and refined. Companies which engage in CSR must be willing to change mindsets and practices, even as they sharpen their focus on the core values by which they anchor their response to the needs of society. In doing so, they are able to make CSR the soul of the company and every member of the organization an embodiment of what the company stands for socially," Erni added.

## Leadership and transformation

By encouraging its members to pioneer innovative CSR practices to bridge businesses and communities, LCF assumes the leadership role in making more small, medium and large companies realize the importance of CSR.

"Before, CSR was peripheral, now it's part of the way we do business. CSR is not just the job of the foundations; it must be integrated in the company culture and practice. CSR is business recognizing its role in the country," Calingo said.

Local and international CSR practitioners and experts will converge during the LCF CSR Expo 2006 to tackle important CSR issues in the Philippines and other parts of the world. Among the notable international participants are Dr. Emmett Carson, president and CEO of The Minneapolis Foundation and former chairman of the Council on Foundations, (USA); Nileema Noble, United Nations resident coordinator in the Philippines; Bob Grove, managing director for Southeast Asia, Edelman Singapore; Anne-Maree Huxley, founder of Models of Success and Sustainability and director of CSR Summit 2005 (Australia); and Duncan Power and John Winkett, executive director and deputy director of Charities Aid Foundation (Australia). Meanwhile, Jose Leviste, chairman, president and CEO of Mirant Philippines; Nicasio Alcantara, chairman of Petron Corporation; Edgar Chua, chairman of Marketing Association of the Philippines and country manager of Shell companies in the Philippines; and Fernando Zobel de Ayala, president and COO of Ayala Corporation are among the many prominent names in business that will participate in the CSR Expo.

"Industry collaboration, even among competitors can lead to strong movement that can achieve tremendous synergy and high-level results in reducing or eliminating social problems," LCF chairperson and Ayala Foundation president Vicky Garchitorena said.

"We want to come up with solutions that are sustainable, system-wide and measurable," Calingo said.

# Messages

When you come to think of it, the Filipino has always been taking CSR to heart.

Bayanihan, pagmamalasaskit, pakikipag-kapwa-tao: values that are at the heart of Filipino culture are the values that have inspired generations of Filipinos to give, selflessly and unconditionally, so that others may live. Whether it's earning for their families or helping to build their communities, the Pinoy spirit of giving is a giving from the heart.

It is this same spirit of giving that inspires the member-organizations of the League of Corporate Foundations (LCF) to be the vehicles of Corporate Social Responsibility of the Philippine business sector, synergizing the resources of our parent companies to provide innovative, sustainable business solutions to poverty, and the myriad problems besetting our people today.

As we present this year's edition of the CSR Expo, the League looks forward to a future where all Filipino companies integrate the generations-old tradition of Pinoy giving to the mainstream of their business practice, acquiring for their organizations a living, breathing, giving Pinoy heart.

Welcome, partners and friends in Pinoy giving, to CSR Expo 2006! Let's all take CSR to heart.

(Sgd.)MA. VICTORIA P. GARCHITORENA
Chairperson
League of Corporate Foundations

(Sgd.) MARILOU G. ERNI
Chairperson
CSR Expo 2006 Steering Committee

Mirant Philippines' strategic partnership with the League of Corporate Foundations (LCF) in this year's CSR Expo is a committed expression of our corporate philosophy that corporate sustainability is inextricably linked with our country's sustainable development. Mirant has integrated CSR into our core business, implementing programs where we can make a significant and long-term impact, consistent with the government's national priorities, such as Mirant's Project BEACON, our barangay electrification program. I commend LCF with its leadership position in the advocacy of transforming institutions into socially responsible organizations and I enjoin the business leaders of our country to continue stepping up and working collaboratively into developing sustainable solutions towards national development.

(Sgd.) JOSE P. LEVISTE JR
Chairman, President
and CEO of Mirant Philippines

# You've got a friend in Coke Barkada

GROWING UP, DO YOu REMEMber the people who supported you through life and the pains of growing up? The people who stood by you in times of trouble, who laughed with you at funny jokes and life's unexpected twists and turns? The people who you promised to remain friends with for the rest of your life? They're none other than your barkada. It's true that who you choose as friends moulds the kind of person that you will be. The old adage "Tell me who your friends are and I'll tell you who you are" rings true. We learn about life from the people we can relate to the most, our friends and barkadas.

Coca-Cola Philippines, through the Coca-Cola Foundation, knows how important it is to support the youth of today. As future leaders of the country, they need all the encouragement and guidance that they can get in order to grow up as determined and strong-willed individuals who are patriotic, civic minded and have genuine concern for others.

Support and assistance comes in the form of Coke Barkada, the Foundation's newest program that aims to harness the idealism and energy of the youth to make them active participants in nation building. Coke Barkada has held several activities to engage the youth in its quest. The first of these activities was the GimiCon (short for Gimik Conference) held last September 9 and 16, 2005 at the Executive Dining Room of the San Miguel Corporation head office complex. This event launched the Coke Barkada Program.

Another activity was the first ever Coke Barkada Grand Gimik last May 26, 2006 at the La Mesa Reforestation Area and UP Diliman. The Grand Gimik was a whole-day event that gathered six hundred students from 19 universities and colleges. It was a day of meaningful learning and of exhibiting passion for Mother Earth and the environment. This celebration was filled with fun, beginning with tree planting at La Mesa, continuing on with interactive workshops at the UP Lagoon area, and ending with rocking good performances at a concert to cap the biggest, grandest one-of-a-kind gimik for the Filipino youth.

The Coke Barkada is also a co-presenter of the TAYO awards. This is an annual nationwide search for the Ten Accomplished Youth Organizations or TAYO. TAYO was initiated by the National Youth Commission to recognize, reward and encourage youth efforts in nation building. At the core of the Coke Barkada Program is the Barkadahan Grant which provides funding to university youth organizations to enable them to implement volunteer/outreach projects about issues that concern them. Through the Barkadahan Grant, organizations from various colleges and universities were able to implement their own planned programs like tutorials, mobile libraries, livelihood skills training, and other activities for the benefit of their less-fortunate fellow youth. In the past, the organizations found it difficult to get funds. Much of their time was spent on fund-raising, leaving them little opportunity to actually implement the projects. With the grant they were able to put into action the projects which they had been planning for a long time. The Barkadahan Grant took out the burden of finding funds and removed the need for extra effort in looking for sponsors. They were able to fully concentrate on improving their projects. Now that's support from a true friend.

Coke Barkada friends also have a special avenue for them to spend time and talk about things that matter to them. The Coke Tambayan is a virtual gathering place for young people looking to connect with each other and share ideas on how to make a difference in their communities. It is a website that contains information on the Coke Barkada and features on inspiring youths and barkadas. You can be with the barkada online through www.cokebarkada.com. This website will also be a sign-up venue for Coke Barkada special events and other volunteering opportunities. It hosts an on-line forum to facilitate sharing of views and experiences related to youth and citizenship. And even with all these, the Coke Barkada program has only just begun. There are more programs and activities in the works for the Filipino youth, from the barkada they can always count on!

# When advertising business meets CSR

CARE BEARS, DO-GOODERS, bleeding hearts. At the office, they call us all these things. We also call ourselves the 'beg ladies', because our clients usually have no money so we have to ask friends and suppliers to give us extra friendly rates. We've offended woodcutters, religious groups and government officials. But we go ahead and do what we do anyway.

Because along the way, we've helped gather a million signatures against logging, raised awareness for family planning, AIDS and teen sexuality, and pricked quite a few voter consciences.

We are Campaigns Social Response, or CSR. In previous lives, we did ads for soap, shampoo, juice and dishwashing liquid. Today, we work mostly with foundations, NGO's and government agencies. But happily, we're also meeting our old clients again; this time because the soap and shampoo makers are getting more involved in advocacy.

We like to think of ourselves as a bridge between business and development work---we connect companies to causes, and earn them some goodwill from their customers. Then we bring marketing and advertising insights to the more academic NGO's. There's much to be learned from both worlds.

We do what we do because we can. We've successfully sold millions of bottles of Downy and 202, and along the way, we learned how to talk to mothers and teenagers. When we worked on laundry accounts, we learned that women feel beholden to their husbands because the men are the breadwinners. When we worked on family planning, we realized that this was the same reason why wives feel they cannot refuse their husbands sex, even when they are afraid they will get pregnant again. So the ad 'Gising' was born, which showed women that it's ok to take charge of their bodies.

We do what we do because we should. There is much to be done in our country, and we can't wait for government to do it all. And in the end, every Filipino that is better educated, better fed and better cared for will be another potential customer for our mainstream clients.

'Beg ladies', do-gooders, uncaped crusaders. Call us what you will, we'll keep doing what we do because we love it.

*By Marilyn Villapando and Rocky Sanchez Tirona. Marl is the COO while Rocky is the MD and Head of Creative. Together with Chairperson Yoly Ong, they run Campaigns Social Response.*

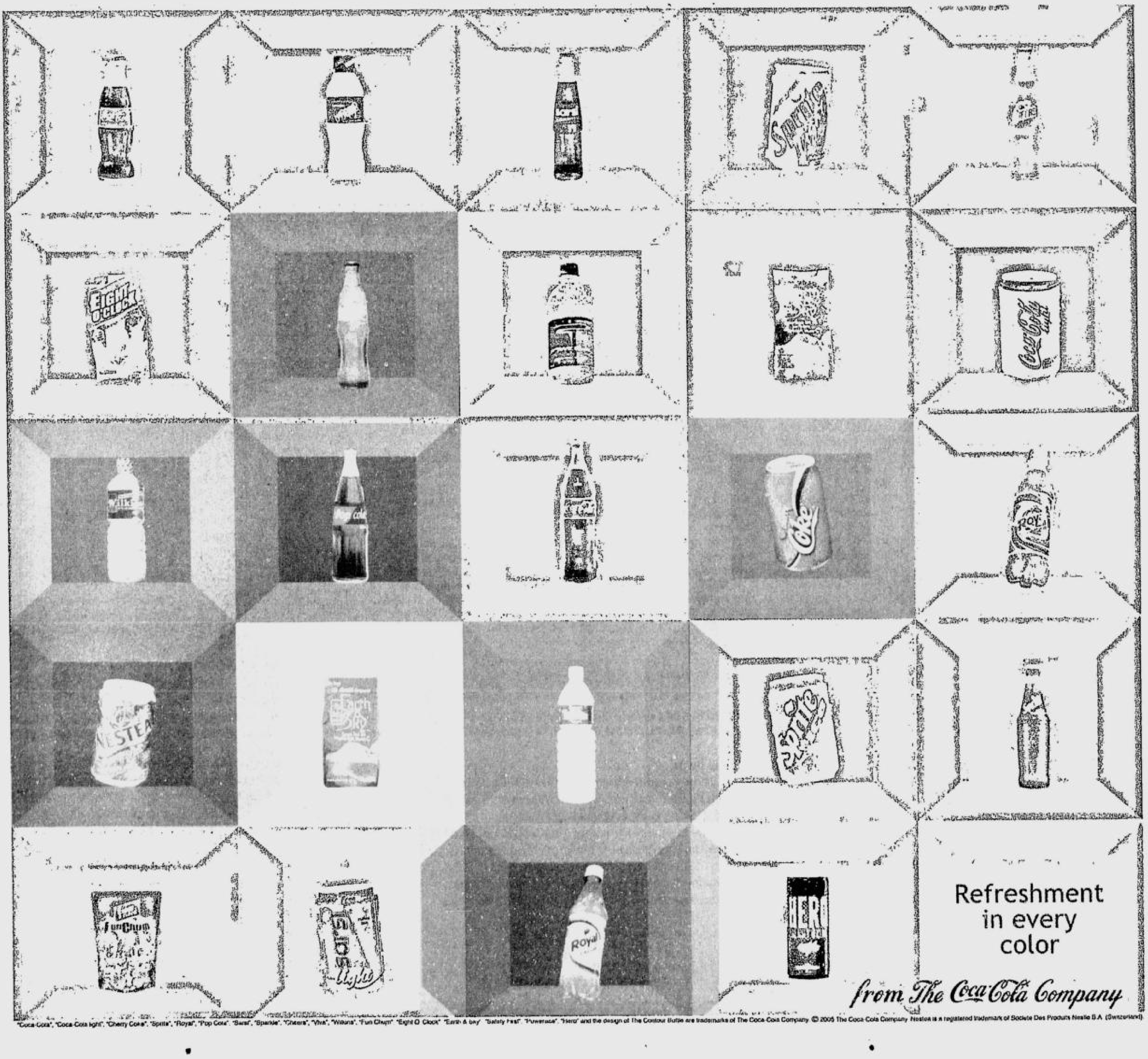
# PASAR Foundation Inc: Empowering lives at the community

PASAR FOUNDATION WAS LAUNCHED IN May 2005. In July, the Board of Trustees and Officers had a 2-day strategic planning activity in Cebu City with Ramon Aboitiz Foundation, Inc. (RAFI) facilitating the milestone activity. The three focus areas of the foundation were education, environment and enterprise support. The foundation will be working in the municipalities of Isabel, Palompon and Merida (ISPAME) in Leyte province - - communities in and around the company's area of operation.

Some of the projects of the foundation were a math laboratory and equipment grant to Matlang National High School in Isabel, Leyte under the Applied Academics for Excellence Program (APEX) in partnership with the Department of Education, grant in the construction of 25 low cost houses for the urban poor in partnership with Gawad Kalinga in Isabel, Leyte, and, a coastal resource management project in 2 fisherfolk associations in two barangays in partnership with the local government unit of Palompon, Leyte co-funded by the Swiss Agency for Cooperation and Development through the Embassy of Switzerland in Manila.

It was in the second half of year 2005 when PFI was inducted as a member of the League of Corporate Foundation (LCF), a network organization of more than 50 corporate foundations in the Philippines. Also as part of institution building, PFI applied for accreditation in the Philippine Council for NGO Certification (PCNC), a BIR-recognized clearing and accrediting body for non-government organization.

Believing in the credo "teach a man how to fish and he will live forever, give a man a fish and he will live for a day", the foundation builds on existing local initatives and facilitates linkages/partnerships among stakeholders to strengthen local capacities towards empowered communities and improvement in the quality of life.



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# Mirant Philippines chairman calls on business community to step-up CSR efforts

J.P LEVISTE JR., CHAIRMAN, PRESIDENT AND CEO of Mirant Philippines called on business leaders to further step up the corporate social responsibility (CSR) programs of their respective companies to complement government's efforts to hasten the country's socio-economic development.

"We must properly harness the resources of large and small business enterprises alike to help government expedite its programs to bring socio-economic prosperity to the country and uplift the lives of Filipinos," Leviste said. He adds that member corporations of the League of Corporate Foundations (LCF), of which Mirant is a leading member, have excellent CSR programs--totaling billions of pesos throughout the years--that have significantly uplifted socio-economic conditions in the country.

Leviste points out that the combined resources of the country's most profitable corporations, if properly utilized will make an impact on the country's development.

"I would like to call on my colleagues in the business community, especially those which are doing well, to further step up their CSR efforts and continue to channel resources to high-impact areas such as infrastructure, education and other fields that will further the country's global competitiveness," he said.

Mirant Philippines has poured in over P1 billion for the electrification of rural communities, providing access to electricity to over 1,000 barangays. The program, which has been cited by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, is being undertaken in coordination with the Department of Energy headed by Secretary Raphael P.M Lotilla. The present administration is working to achieve full barangay electrification by the year 2008. Mirant's commitment to help government fully energize the country was reiterated to President Arroyo by Edward Muller, chief executive officer of Mirant Corp. during a recent Manila visit.

"Integrating CSR into a company's business plan certainly makes good strategic sense," says Leviste. He stresses that investing in strategic CSR programs will help foster socio-economic development, which ultimately may reflect in improved markets for businesses. "More than its strategic value, it is everyone's duty, especially those who are doing well, to give something back to the country."

Leviste explains that this year's CSR expo of the LCF will give the country's top corporations the opportunity to "synchronize CSR efforts" in order to maximize its impact on national development.

Likewise, the event will also spread and highlight the importance of CSR, especially to businesses which are considering integrating it into their business plan.

"At this crucial stage in our country's development, we hope there will be more and more companies that will realize the significance of pitching in and doing their share in bringing genuine economic development to the Philippines and hasten the country's rise," said Leviste.

**JOEY Leviste**

*Juan in wonderland*

Children who have literally been kept in the dark can finally travel to far away lands even at night. Mirant's Project BEACON (Barangay Electrification Assistance for Countryside Development) undertakes the electrification of 500 additional barangays nationwide, proceeding the completion of the electrification of 1,000 barangays. It's the beginning of a new life for these Filipino children. With electricity, they now have the power to change their lives and join the mainstream of Philippine development.

PROJECT BEACON
The largest corporate social responsibility program ever carried out by a single private corporation in the country. The project, which is being implemented by Mirant Philippines Foundation, the social development arm of Mirant Philippines, supports the O-Ilaw Program of the Department of Energy.

MIRANT

# What dreams may come ...

The Metrobank Foundation College Scholarship Program opens doors to a fulfilling future.

"Everyone wants to be successful. But I believe that success isn't just for oneself. It's for others as well."

He's only 21 years old, but Ronald Christopher Mercene, Arcee for short, has a firm grasp of what success really is. Graduating Cum Laude from the University of Santo Tomas with a degree in BS Computer Science, this former Metrobank Foundation scholar has dreams of one day owning his own software company. Out of a long list of names, his determination and will to succeed was what set him apart from other applicants.

The best way to describe him is, what you see, is what you get. Arcee is like any other well rounded young man. This high school class Valedictorian enjoys playing football, a little tennis and some badminton.

"Metrobank was open for scholar applications at that time and UST recommended me." Highly coveted, the scholarship pays for the tuition fee and also covers miscellaneous fees. "The fees could be expensive, especially in computer science because you make use of the facilities." The grant gives monthly stipends as well

Although he didn't know if he was going to get a slot, Ronald had hope. Looking back he knows that the scholarship helped him be where he's at today. "I think it really helped me get to where I am in now. The mere fact that you mention the Metrobank scholarship; I think, that's one of the reasons why I got the job quickly. It's very competitive in IT."

Ronald now works as an Associate Software Engineer for an airline software company – something he finds interesting, since his childhood dream was to be a pilot. His first week was a little overwhelming; he was entrusted with a significant project on his third day. After presenting to the director and three managers of the company, the program was a success and is now being implemented.

He looks at his scholarship with the Foundation as, "something that I find very rewarding, something that is part of me already, and will drive me through the years."

"My motto in life is act as though I am, and I will be. Act as if you're a scholar, and you will be. Act as though you're a great student, and you'll become a great student."

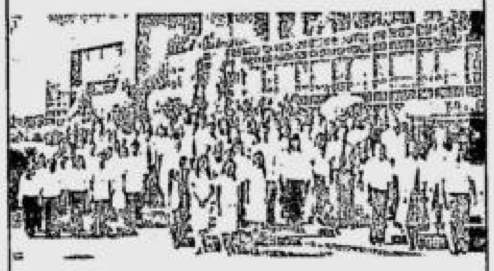
Young as he is, Ronald has set his plans in motion and is laying down the path. "My goal is to excel in my career, in Information Technology. I have a passion for computers. I want to excel in the field conquer it. I want to be remembered. In computer science, they name an algorithm after you if you've done something great. Hopefully, someday, I will have my own."

Seeing the value of hard work, and of life itself, the advice he gives to young aspiring scholars is to be determined, responsible, and focused. "These three values should come together, and it takes sacrifice to do that."

"It's our nature as human beings to aspire for greatness. Otherwise, we'll be stuck," quoted the future CEO. When asked his greatest dream, he replies, "Everyone wants to be successful. I believe that success isn't just for you but for others as well."

Taking a page from the Foundation, Ronald sticks to his values in life. "I'm successful if I've fulfilled my dreams, and achieved my career goals, and if I've helped a lot of people. Starting from small things – it gets bigger. And hopefully it does get bigger."

## METROBANK FOUNDATION, INC.
COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
CLASS 2006 SCHOLARS



### ASSISTANCE FOR THE COMPLETION OF COLLEGE EDUCATION FOR SUPERIOR STUDENTS (ACCESS)

ABARCA, John Christian A. (MDC)
ALINDAYU, Joselito A. (UE) – Cum Laude
APOSTOL, Zyra Camille S. (MDC) – Cum Laude
BAKONG, Omar Nasseef D. (NDU)
BANOGON, Rheinhart O. (SU) – Cum Laude
BOLLOZOS, Katrina Alexa M.(AdMU)
CARDIÑO, Gian Carlo S. (SBC) – Academic Distinction
CARPON, Jimmy Jr. A. (MDC)
CASTIVA, Nancy P. (USA) – Cum Laude
DEL ROSARIO, Mario Luis C. (DLSU)
DELFIN, Julius D. (FEU)
DUCLAYAN, Ellen Mae M. (SLU)
EBUENGAN, Mildred A. (UST)
GALLEGO, Naomi S. (SU)
IGNACIO, Kelvin Joszef S. (CEU)
INOCENCIO, Adelia V. (CEU)
LAGMAN, Roy N. (NDU)
LIZADA, Elmer R. (DLSU)
LOPEZ, Angelie E. (USJ-R)
MAMAC, Mark Gil M. (AdDU) – Cum Laude
MENDOZA, Abegail G. (SLU)
MERCENE, Ronald Christopher R. (UST) – Cum Laude
OTARRA, Grace F. (USJ-R)
PLATON, Marlon Z. (SBC) – Academic Distinction
ROSALES, Juvy P. (SLU) – Cum Laude
SILVELA, Lieza Marie P. (USA)
TINAMPAY, Vyll Roxannie D. (XU)
TOTANES, Henri L. (MDC)
VILLAMOR, Katrina C. (USC) – Cum Laude
VILLAROSA, Ma. Rongi G. (USA)

### EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING PROGRAM (ETP)

BILLONES, Valerie Anne B. (WVSU) – Cum Laude
BULLINGAN, Patricia C. (SLU) – Cum Laude
CABICO, Grace F. (WMSU)
DESPABILADERAS, Jenniline C. (WMSU)
GERMINO, Sandy P. (NDMU) – Magna Cum Laude
GUEVARRA, Peter Paul B. (PNU)
JALANI, Jeffrey O. (WMSU)
LAJERA, Alver B. (NDMU)
REGIDOR, Michael Y. (WVSU) – Cum Laude
RODRIGUEZ, Lani R. (SPUP)
SERAFICA, Amy R. (SPUP)
SILVA, Ralyn C. (LNU) – Cum Laude
UY Kimpang, Ma. Carolina A. (PNU) – Cum Laude
VARGAS, Jetlyn G. (NDMU)

### GRANTS IN AID OF COLLEGE EDUCATION (GRACE)

ARANTE, Clark Dave P. (LNU)
AYALA, Benedicto L. (MSEUF)
BACANI, Norberto C. (UB)
BALILU, Louelle L. (HAU)
CAMACHO, Janine P. (CEU-Malolos)
CARATING, Armie Joy R. (CIC)
DE LEON, Hannah L. (CPU) – Cum Laude
ESTRADA, Bernie F. (AdNU)
GONZALES, Mercedita S. (UB)
JAYME, Joy Marie M. (CPU) – Cum Laude
JOSON, Ethel Aileen C. (CEU-Malolos)
LANDICHO, Mark Alvin L. (MSEUF) – Magna Cum Laude
LUSTERIO, Angelito A. (MSEUF)
MATALOTE, Kristine Bernadette B. (MIT)
OBISPO, Rowena G. (CEU-Malolos)
PADILLA, Lucky G. (HAU)
SILVA, Maria Jessica C. (MIT)
SURILLA, Shyne V. (CPU) – Cum Laude
TORRES, Ma. Lotie S. (CIC) Summa Cum Laude
ZAPANTA, Elmer L. (HAU)

### PRESIDENT GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO (PGMA) SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

BALANGUE, Lowela B. (PUP) – Cum Laude
CABERIO, Jenesses A. (TUP)
DE GUZMAN, Roland R. (TUP)
ENRIQUEZ, Lilicar R. (PUP)
FUENTES, Warlita V. (TUP)
MAGNO, Janice C. (TUP) – Cum Laude
MAIN, Jaecel Marie Z. (TUP)
PICCIO, Brisbane B. (PUP)
TANGUILAN, Jacqueline B. (TUP)

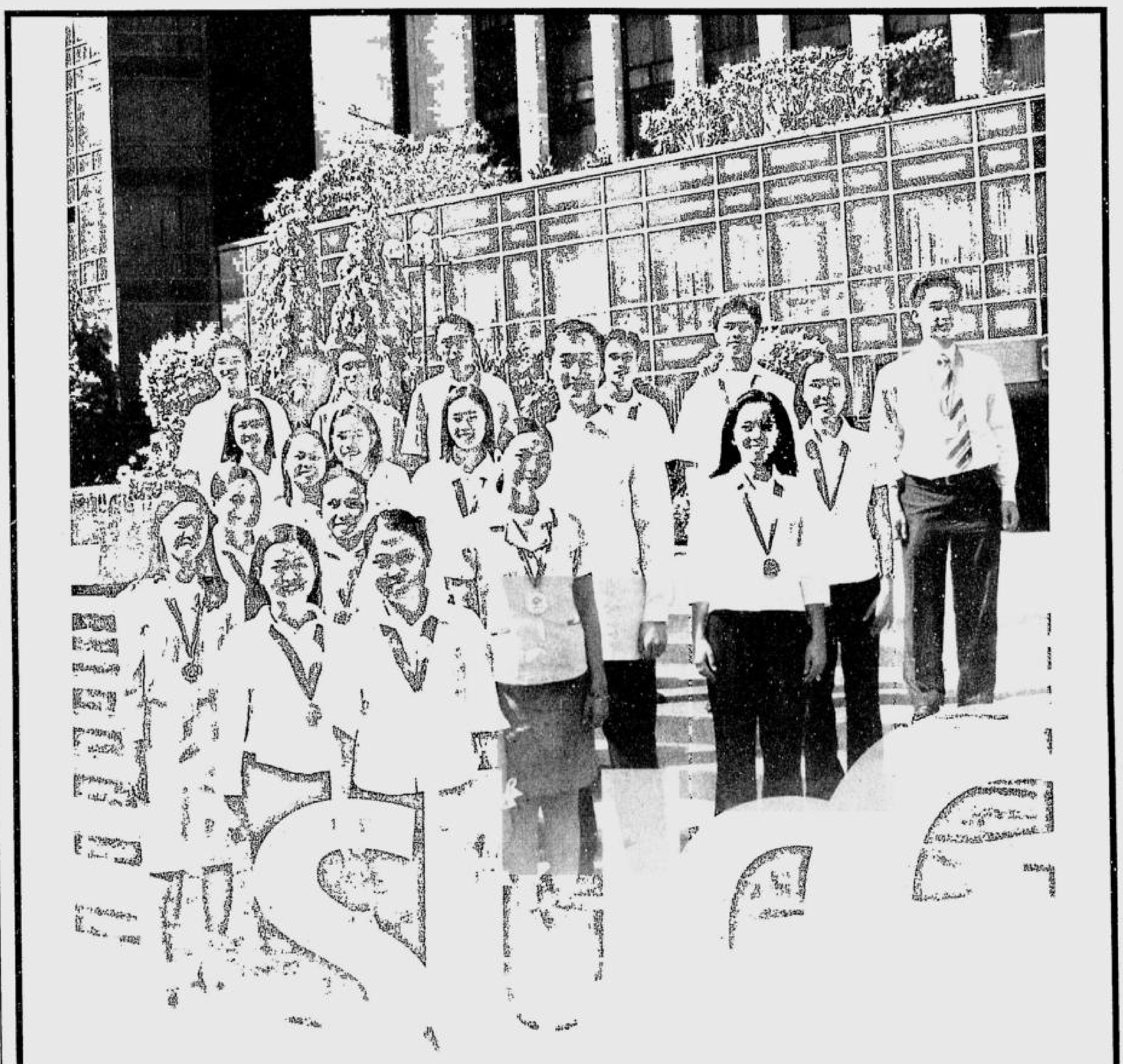
### PARTNER SCHOOLS

ACCESS
Ateneo de Davao University (AdDU)
Ateneo de Manila University (AdMU)
Centro Escolar University (CEU)
De La Salle University (DLSU)
Far Eastern University (FEU)
Manila Doctors College (MDC)
Notre Dame University (NDU)
Saint Louis University (SLU)
San Beda College (SBC)
Silliman University (SU)
University of San Agustin (USA)
University of San Carlos (USC)
University of San Jose-Recoletos (USJ-R)
Xavier University (XU)

ETP
Leyte Normal University (LNU)
Notre Dame of Marbel University (NDMU)
Philippine Normal University (PNU)
Saint Louis University (SLU)
St. Paul University Philippines (SPUP)
West Visayas State University (WVSU)
Western Mindanao State University (WMSU)

GRACE
Ateneo de Naga University (AdNU)
Central Philippine University (CPU)
Centro Escolar University (CEU-Malolos)
College of the Immaculate Conception (CIC)
Holy Angel University (HAU)
Leyte Normal University (LNU)
Manuel S. Enverga University Foundation (MSEUF)
Mapua Institute of Technology (MIT)
University of Baguio (UB)

PGMA
Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP)
Technological University of the Philippines (TUP)



Metrobank President Arthur Ty, with Metrobank Foundation Scholars with Latin Honors Class 2006

# Banking on the Nation's Future

## At the heart of our business is our social investment in people.

Through its College Scholarship Program, the Metrobank Foundation helps ensure not only a brighter future for these outstanding scholars, but a stable and progressive nation for all Filipinos. Since 1995, the Foundation has funded close to 900 scholarship grants all over the country, with some of the best colleges and universities. More than 500 of these scholars have since graduated and are now making valuable contributions in their respective communities. While we are proud of our achievements in the business arena, we are even more proud of having made worthwhile investments in the future of our nation.

You're in good hands with
METROBANK

You are made to excel!
METROBANK FOUNDATION, INC.
Member: League of Corporate Foundations, Inc.

METROBANK FOUNDATION

# Transforming the Present and Creating the Future:

## Social Investments at its best

What would the world be like today if not for the generosity of others? In times of uncertainty there can be no greater gift in this world than the gift of humanity. Without a doubt, this spirit of bigheartedness can provide hope for a nation.

Metrobank Foundation, Inc., the corporate social responsibility arm of the Metrobank, has been at the forefront of promoting excellence among workers of various sectors of the Philippine society. This thrust is primarily experienced in the various awards program undertaken, all aimed at giving due recognition to unsung heroes in our midst. Among these programs are the Search for the Outstanding Teachers (since 1985), The Young Painters Award (since 1984) now known as the Metrobank Arts and Design Excellence, The Country's Outstanding Policemen in Service (since 1999), The Outstanding Philippine Soldier (since 2000), the Metrobank Math Challenge (since 1998) and The Outstanding Workers of the Republic (since 2000).

Over the years, the foundation has nurtured a tradition of excellence, and has promoted dynamic leadership in corporate social responsibility. Its varied and multifaceted programs reflect a unifying vision and leaves a lasting mark – an empowered society whose members are able to realize their fullest human potentials. It has built inroads in the fields of education, the arts, and healthcare. It has likewise cultivated partnerships to expand and deepen networking and capability building among developmental organizations.

More than two decades after it was founded in 1999 the Foundation continues to stay true to its commitment to contribute to nation building by touching more lives and inspiring other corporations and individuals to follow suit.

Rotary Club of New Manila East • The Philippine National Police

### THE METROBANK FOUNDATION SEARCH FOR THE

# COPS

## COUNTRY'S OUTSTANDING POLICEMEN IN SERVICE

**Commissioned Officer Category** *(First Row: L-R)*

*POLICE SUPERINTENDENT POLICARPIO C. CAYABYAB JR.*
*Chief of Police, Calasiao Police Station*
*Calasiao, Pangasinan*

*POLICE SUPERINTENDENT TOMASITO T. CLET*
*Chief of Police, Iriga City Police Station, Iriga City,*
*Camarines Sur*

*POLICE SUPERINTENDENT EDGAR G. IGLESIA*
*Chief, Intelligence, Research and Analysis Division,*
*Police Anti-Crime Emergency Response (PACER),*
*Camp Crame, Quezon City*

*POLICE SUPERINTENDENT FELICIDAD R. GIDO*
*Station Commander, Police Station II, Quezon City Police District,*
*Brgy. San Isidro, Galas, Quezon City*

**Non-Commissioned Officer Category** *(Second Row: L-R)*

*SENIOR POLICE OFFICER 4 MERCEDES M. GARCIA*
*Deputy Chief, Police Community Relations Branch,*
*Baguio City Police Office, Baguio City*

*SENIOR POLICE OFFICER 1 RECTO G. VALERIANO*
*Police Community Relation PNCO, 509th Police*
*Provincial Mobile Group, Bulan, Sorsogon*

*POLICE OFFICER 3 ROSALIE D. SOMBLINGO*
*Women and Children Concern Desk PNCO, Police*
*Precinct 5, General Santos City Police Office,*
*Brgy. Tambler, General Santos City*

*POLICE OFFICER 3 TEJANNE Q. ZARZOSO*
*Women and Children Desk PNCO, Cabadbaran Municipal*
*Police Station, Agusan Del Norte Police Provincial Office*
*Cabadbaran, Agusan del Norte*

*SENIOR POLICE OFFICER 3 NESTOR R. KAHANO*
*Special Operation Section, PNCO, Office of the*
*Regional Intelligence and Investigation Division,*
*Police Regional Office 8, Camp Kangleon, Palo, Leyte*

*POLICE OFFICER 2 RODEL G. JAVISON*
*Investigation and Police Community Relations, PNCO*
*Police Regional Office 12, General Santos City Police Office,*
*Barangay Labangal, General Santos City*

## Model Law Enforcers, Exemplary Community Builders

The new breed of men and women in the PNP are not only effective agents of peace and order, but catalysts of community development and transformation. Committed to their role as public servants, these outstanding police officers have gone beyond crime prevention and solution, actively engaging their respective communities in more meaningful ways, to help bring about enduring progress and security.

In honor of their unique and distinguished achievements, the Metrobank Foundation and the Rotary Club of New Manila East, in partnership with the Philippine National Police, once again salute the finest representatives of our national law enforcement agency. By recognizing their contributions to nation building, we hope to inspire not just their peers in uniform to similarly strive for the highest standards of performance and conduct, and to bring back the dignity and pride in genuine community service.

# Building Homes of Hope

### Partnerships that shape the future

Welcome! METROBANK Gawad Ka

More than just a housing program, Gawad Kalinga has gone beyond providing homes for the poor. Together with the Metrobank Foundation and its partner institutions, a community is rebuilt to give the people in Macabebe Pampanga, a better chance at life.

Answering the urgency of the situation, Metrobank was the first bank in the country to respond to the call of Gawad Kalinga in donating P1 Million in September of 2004 to start what is now known as the Metrobank Foundation-Gawad Kalinga Village; a resettlement site for victims of the Mt. Pinatubo eruption.

To further help improve the lives of the beneficiary families, the Foundation renewed its commitment of support in a simple gift-giving ceremony and MOA signing during its 27th anniversary in January this year. The additional funds will provide for the development of the community: electricity, water facilities, drainage, as well as the establishment of livelihood programs.

Like all successful projects, the massive operations could not have been achieved without the help of other groups who were eager to give their share of assistance. In a recent turnover ceremony, Metrobank Foundation and its partners raised a total of P1.5M for the Gawad Kalinga Village.

Metrobank's Corporate Social Responsibility Unit Head Winnie Cruz believes that partnerships such as these not only shares blessings, but the generosity of people's spirits. "We're just glad to partner with Gawad Kalinga through the Foundation, because every opportunity we get allows us to participate in nation-building," she says.

But the efforts do not stop here as true partnerships involve not just working together to touch more lives, but sharing a common vision for a peaceful and progressive country. With dedicated people who work for the same cause, the partnership is clearly the beginning of bigger efforts in the future.

METROBANK FOUNDATION, INC.
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AND OUTREACH PROGRAM

LEAGUE OF CORPORATE FOUNDATIONS
CSR EXPO '06

# CSR Expo 2006: Let's Take CSR to Heart!

## *Conference Program*

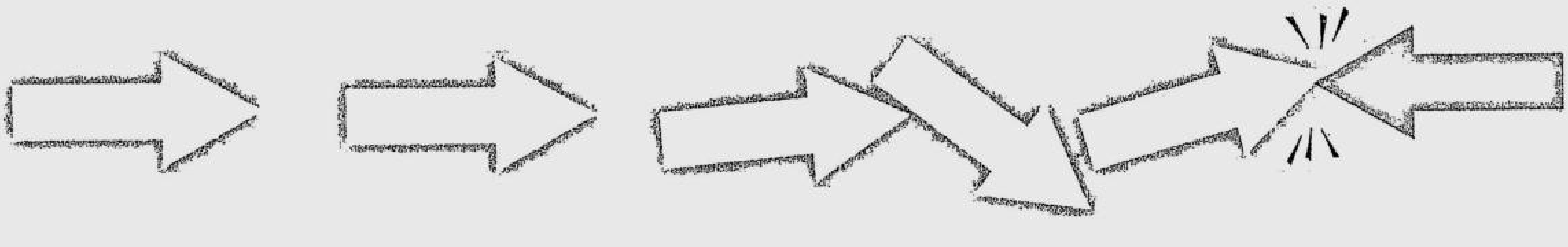
## Every Nation Leadership Institute Program of Activities

| DAY 1 • JULY 5 ACTIVITY | TIME | VENUE |
|---|---|---|
| TRACK ONE: EMBEDDING CSR | | |
| Opening Ceremonies | 09:00 - 11:00 | ASSEMBLY HALL (2/F) |
| Morning Plenary: CEO Perspectives on CSR | | |
| Luncheon Plenary (BY INVITATION): The CEO Challenges to Sustainable CSR<br>A Joint Meeting of the MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE PHILIPPINES and the MAKATI BUSINESS CLUB in partnership with the League of Corporate Foundations. | 11:30 - 02:00 | ASSEMBLY HALL (2/F) |
| Plenary<br>• Philippine CSR Report: The Private Sector Response to Poverty Alleviation<br>• UN Global Compact and the UN Millennium Development Goals Declaration<br>• Taking the Global Compact to Heart | 02:00 - 03:30 | ASSEMBLY HALL (2/F) |
| Breakout Sessions | 03:30 - 05:00 | |
| • BS 1.1: Young CEOs & Entrepreneurs: Towards a More Integrated & Sustainable CSR | | MULTIMEDIA RM (1/F) |
| • BS 1.2 Role of HRD in Integrating CSR into the Core Business in partnership with the Personnel Management Association of the Philippines (PMAP) | | RM 105 (1/F) |
| • BS 1.3 ISQ (Spirituality Quotient). Living One's Value in the Workplace in partnership with the Women's Business Council (WBC) and Bishops-Businessmen's Conference | | RM 103 (1/F) |
| Fellowship Night Cocktail Reception hosted by Petron Foundation (BY INVITATION) | 06:00 - 08:00 | ASSEMBLY HALL (2/F) |
| DAY 2 • JULY 6 | | |
| Track 2: CHANGING CSR MINDSETS AND PRACTICES | | |
| CEO Breakfast on the Edelman Trust Barometer in partnership with EON -The Stakeholder Relations Firm and Edelman Asia-Pacific (BY INVITATION) | 07:30 - 09:00 | EVERY NATION ASSEMBLY HALL (2/F) |
| Launch of the CEO Perspectives on CSR and the LCF CSR Casebook "Taking CSR to Heart" by the LCF Research Committee | 09:00 - 11:30 | ASSEMBLY HALL (2/F) |
| Plenary: Global and Local Challenges to CSR Integration: The Business Case for CSR | | |
| Luncheon Plenary (BY INVITATION): Creating Sustainable Value with CSR | 12:00 - 02:00 | ASSEMBLY HALL (2/F) |
| Overview of Breakout Session 2: Making CSR Happen: Role of the Strategic Business Units (SBUs) | 02:30 - 04:30 | |
| • BS 2.1: Role of Finance: Financially Sustaining the CSR Efforts | | RM 102 (1/F) |
| • BS 2.2 Supplier Engagement: How Can Corporations Engage Suppliers in Solving Key Social Issues | | RM 103 (1/F) |
| • BS 2.3 Role of Health, Safety and Environment: Ensuring Environmental Sustainability | | RM 105 (1/F) |
| Fellowship Night Cocktails by Mirant Philippines (BY INVITATION) | 06:00 - 08:00 | ASSEMBLY HALL (2/F) |
| DAY 3 • JULY 7 | | |
| Track 3: QUARTERBACKING THE CHANGE | | |
| Breakfast Forum with the North Face: Explorations for a Cause (BY INVITATION) | 07:30 - 09:00 | MULTIMEDIA RM (1/F) |
| Plenary: Harnessing Human Capital, Volunteerism and Employee Engagement In Solving Key Social Issues | 09:00 - 11:30 | ASSEMBLY HALL (1/F) |
| Report on Volunteerism Initiatives of LCF Members | | |

Guests move to Market Market for Luncheon Plenary 11:30 am to 12

## Market Market Program of Activities

| DAY 1 • JULY 5 ACTIVITY | TIME | VENUE |
|---|---|---|
| Deaf Employment as a CSR Activity<br>College of St. Benilde | 11:30 -12:30 | PS 1 |
| Robotics Demo<br>First Asia Institute of Technology & Humanities | | PS 2 |
| Sign Language Learning Session<br>College of St. Benilde | | PS 3 |
| Opening of Exhibits | 02:00 - 2:30 | TRADE HALL ENTRANCE |
| Screening of 10 Independent Digital Films<br>Katorse Group | 02:30 -05:00 | PS 1 |
| Knowledge Camp<br>- Interactive Science Demo<br>- Philippine Foundation for Science and Technology<br>- Awarding Ceremonies for the Most Effective Public Elementary School in Science & Math<br>- Presentation of Union Bank Book | | PS 2 |
| LCF Member Zone Film Festival | | PS 3 |
| Raising Environmental Awareness through Bird Watching<br>Wild Birds Club Philippines | 05:00 -06:00 | PS 1 |
| Poetry Reading Session<br>LIRA | 06:00 -07:00 | PS 2 |
| DAY 2 • JULY 6 | | |
| Hybrid Vehicles<br>Toyota Philippines | 11:30 - 12:30 | PS 1 |
| Sa Aklat Sisikat Story Telling | | PS 2 |
| AMORE - Partnering with Communities, LGUs & NGOs for Sustainable High-Impact CSR Programs | | PS 3 |
| Sa Aklat Sisikat Story Telling | 01:00 -02:00 | PS 2 |
| CSR 101: | 02:00 -05:00 | SESSION HALL |
| CSR Trends<br>Roberto R. Calingo<br>Executive Director, Mirant Philippines Foundation<br>President, League of Corporate Coundations | 02:00 - 03:00 | |
| Communicating CSR<br>Chito San Mateo, Inquirer | 03:00 - 04:00 | SESSION HALL |
| Funding CSR<br>Paul Buenconsejo, Metrobank Foundation | | PS 3 |
| Small Things can make Big Change<br>Pacita Juan<br>President & CEO, Figaro Coffee Company | 04:00 - 05:00 | SESSION HALL |
| CSR Strategies in Promoting Teaching Reforms In Marginalized Communites<br>Tata Medado, EduQuest Inc | | PS 3 |
| Filmshowing from CEAE<br>- Children of the Mountains<br>- Winning the War on Garbage<br>- Environmental Art<br>- Moving Mountains | 02:00 -05:00 | PS 1 |
| Green Camp<br>- Importance of a Watershed<br>- Palit llaw<br>- Toyota Hybrid Cars<br>- Bantay Baterya<br>- Benefits of Bike Commuting<br>- SEDP - USAID | 02:00 -05:00 | PS 2 |
| Reading Session<br>LIRA/In Kind Contribution | 06:00 -07:00 | PS 2 |
| DAY 3 • JULY 7 | | |
| ITC Partnership in Education<br>Microsoft | 11:00 - 12:00 | PS 1 |
| Aspire to Inspire<br>Kythe Foundation | | PS 2 |
| Foot and Mouth Painting<br>Splash Foundation | | PS 3 |
| Luncheon Plenary (BY INVITATION)<br>• A Model of Taking Collective Action: The Private Sector Response to Southern Leyte<br>• Nurturing the Corporate Soul | 12:00 -02:00 | MARKET! MARKET! SESSION HALL<br>3/F, TRADE HALL A |
| Volunteerism and Employee Engagement Marketplace | 02:00 -03:00 | MARKET! MARKET! SESSION HALL |
| Marketplace of Companies and Volunteer Groups for Harnessing Employee Engagement/Youth Involvement in identified priority areas: | | MARKET! MARKET! SESSION HALL |
| • BS 3.1. Engaging Volunteers in Enterprise & Livelihood Programs | | POCKET SESSION 1 |
| • BS 3.2. Education, Research, and Arts and Culture<br>Engaging Volunteers in Education<br>Engaging Volunteers in CSR Research<br>Engaging Volunteers in Arts and Culture | | SESSION HALL |
| • BS 3.3: Environment<br>Engaging Volunteers in Environment Initiatives | 03:00 -04:30 | POCKET SESSION 2 |
| • BS 3.4: Engaging Volunteers in Disaster Response, Relief and Rehabilitation | | POCKET SESSION 3 |
| Closing Ceremonies | 04:45 -06:00 | MARKET! MARKET! SESSION HALL |



**GOING THE OPPOSITE WAY IS COUNTERPRODUCTIVE.**
Obeying traffic rules leads to progress.

We at Toyota believe that if we make our roads safer, not only do we save human lives, we move towards making both economic and social progress possible.

Go the right way in road traffic safety. Join us in supporting the Society of Philippine Motoring Journalists' (SPMJ) "Early Warning" project on Road Traffic Safety Education of School Children and the Road Traffic Safety Conferences of the Automobile Association of the Philippines (AAP).

TOYOTA
*moving forward* ▶

TOYOTA MOTOR PHILIPPINES CORPORATION

# Ten years of celebrating hope

WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO TRANSFORM A LIFE?

For every child we send to school through our Tulong Aral ng Petron program: the cost of a low-end cellular phone in the market.

For every teacher we retool and inspire through our Petron Programang Kaakbay: less than the price of a full-course meal in a decent restaurant.

For every parent we empower through our Petron Gasul Pangkabuhayan Kart: the cost of an MP3 player.

But how do you quantify hope – especially the kind you fuel by giving every child born to a poor family the passport to a better future through education? How do you translate into pesos and cents the cost of a fighting chance – the one you gave a mother of six who's been working on the street in her lifetime?

Petron Foundation believes the true pursuit of corporate social responsibility is all about fueling hope. Our programs now span a decade, and we take great pride in being able to keep the torch of hope alive – in the communities where we operate, among our partners, and among our employee volunteers.

This year, we celebrate a decade of transformation. As we take our CSR journey on to the next decade, we see our Tulong Aral scholars, their parents and teachers, young people aspiring to become entrepreneurs, the fishermen in our shores, our employee volunteers, and other partners growing with us as we take life's larger lessons. Together, we discover that in life, there is nothing more important than hope. For Petron, this is a social pact, a commitment. For our beneficiaries, theirs are stories that beg to be told.

"The bottom line is passion. You can work, work, and work and produce something. But if you work with passion, you actually produce something greater, bigger one that you can actually be proud of."
*- Antonio G. Pelayo, vice president for finance and subsidiaries, Petron Corporation*

"Tulong Aral scholars are known as a different breed of exemplary students who are not just bright but studious as well. After all, these are children of poor parents who see the scholarship as their only way out of poverty."
*- Diana Sali, mother of Tulong Aral ng Petron scholar, Jhanna, a grade 2 student at Culiat Elementary School in Quezon City*

"When you see a Tulong Aral ng Petron scholar, you see hope. It's tough work to be a public school teacher but students like them make it all worth the journey."
*- Salome Castro, Grade 1 teacher, Pateros Elementary School*

"The children's reactions were very encouraging. Even after the reading period, a lot of them would actually stay behind to finish reading. A few even go to school early just so they can read the books in a mini-library. We have somehow created a spark."
*- Margarita L. Delgado, president and co-founder, Sa Aklat Sisikat Foundation*

"I believe that from the very beginning, our students wanted to learn. But somewhere along the way, the dreary school environment led them astray. It's amazing how much Petron's programs have affected our students."
*- Teresita Bulahan, principal, John Spirig Elementary School, Zamboanga City*

"I realized that we also work because work gives us dignity. Work allows us to give something of ourselves to the community."
*- Jayron Sollestre, valedictorian in forecourt operations, Petron Youth In Entrepreneurship and Leadership Development (YIELD) Program*

"The word was written on the cart and we thought it also aptly represents what this program gave us."
*- Nomita Luciano, parent of Tulong Aral ng Petron scholar Reynaldo, Jr. and beneficiary of the Gasul Pangkabuhayan Kart program*

"I'm not merely driven to protect a livelihood; I'm committed to uphold our way of life."
*- Romeo Borja, chairman, Samahan at Ugnayan ng Pangisdaan ng Orion (SUGPO)*

"When their children make it to the honor roll, it's like they won the lotto-they grin from ear to ear. Some are so grateful they rush over to hug you. Yung mga nanay, yayakapin ka talaga. It's during those times I'm reminded that we really chose the right project."
*Alice Bala, Undersecretary, Department of Social Welfare and Development*

"Petron is a company of hope, not just for its young beneficiaries, but for the whole nation."
*- Dr. Teresita G. Domalanta, NCR Regional Director, Department of Education*

"Now I know that happiness comes only when you make it a priority for others to experience it as well."
*- Tina Rellin, general accounting supervisor, Petron Corporation*

## Pfizer: Working for a healthier world

ONCE A HUMBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF NINE employees, Pfizer today is one of the largest pharmaceutical companies in the country. Its employees are committed to achieving Pfizer's vision of improving the quality of life of millions of Filipinos through its innovations in pharmaceutical, consumer and animal health products.

Through the years, Pfizer has found more cures for more illnesses. Along the way, it also did not miss the opportunity to alleviate the pain and misery of those who suffer.

At Pfizer, reaching out is a way of life. A simple contribution to the community at a time it is most needed continues to bring an immeasurable sense of hope to the lives of many families.

To date, Pfizer has successfully designed and implemented a number of community-based programs in partnership with distinguished healthcare organizations, academic institutions and other foundations.

Leaders for Health Program (LHP) has produced health leaders in 40 medically underserved communities who develop and implement effective strategies and good governance practices to strengthen the healthcare system. In partnership with the Department of Health and Ateneo Graduate School of Business, LHP has benefited close to one million Filipinos in very poor municipalities.

Gawad Kalusugan-Pfizer Program is a multi-sectoral, integrated area development program that brings together key stakeholders in health to develop the marginalized Baseco community into a self-reliant organization equipped to manage its own local health concerns.

National Institutes of Health-Pfizer Research Fellowship Program supports local researches which address current public health concerns and significantly affect a large sector of the society.

LIFE-Pfizer Advocacy Program for Childhood Leukemia, in partnership with the Leukemic Indigent Fund Endowment (LIFE) Foundation, aims to increase public awareness on childhood leukemia by professionalizing its support group and providing medical assistance to the most underprivileged leukemic patients.

Kythe-Pfizer Child Life Program was established in the Tarlac Provincial Hospital, Davao Medical Center and UST Charity Hospital by Pfizer to extend access to the Kythe program which provides cancer-stricken and chronically-ill pediatric patients with much-needed psycho-social support to help them cope with their condition.

Virtual Libraries in 13 different hospitals all over the country, with free access to the Internet, help doctors, medical practitioners and students gather information from medical publications and scientific journals and keep them abreast of the latest medical advancements and scientific developments globally.

Medical Society Websites developed by Pfizer in partnership with medical societies help improve patient access to relevant medical information and local healthcare initiatives.

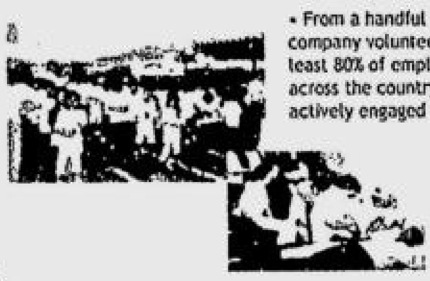
Patient Programs provide innovative ways for patients to manage their disease by offering valuable information and medicine discounts ranging from 25 - 50%.

Workplace Wellness Program fights the battle against various diseases by disseminating important health information and conducting free medical screenings for office employees and community members.

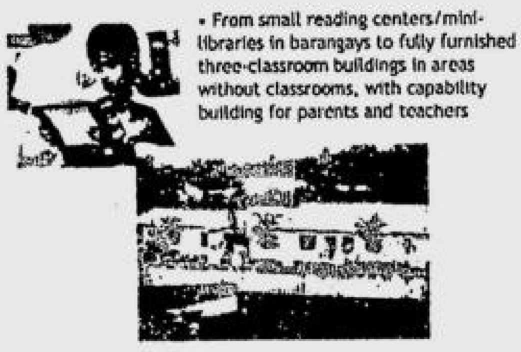
Pfizer Engage instills the value of Community among Pfizer employees by providing them with various opportunities to share their time, resources and talents with the communities the company serves.

## Transforming The Way We Do Good

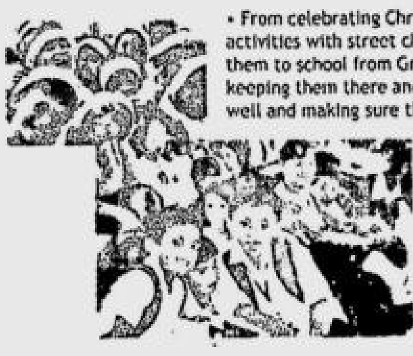
For a decade now, Petron Foundation has been defining and redefining its way of doing good, transforming its initiatives from simple, one-time efforts into sustainable, maximum impact programs that harness the power of partnerships.



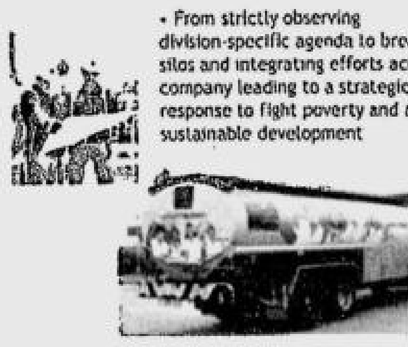
- From a handful of company volunteers to at least 80% of employees across the country actively engaged in CSR



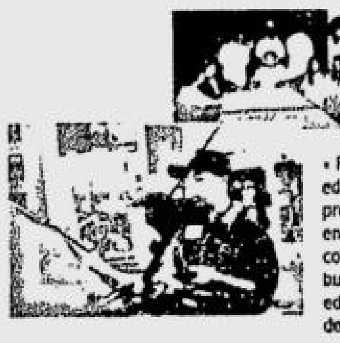
- From small reading centers/mini-libraries in barangays to fully furnished three-classroom buildings in areas without classrooms, with capability building for parents and teachers



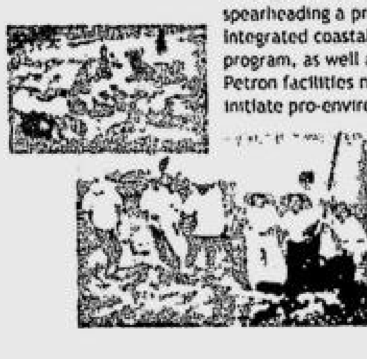
- From celebrating Christmas in annual activities with street children to sending them to school from Grade 1 to 6, keeping them there and keeping them well and making sure that they learn



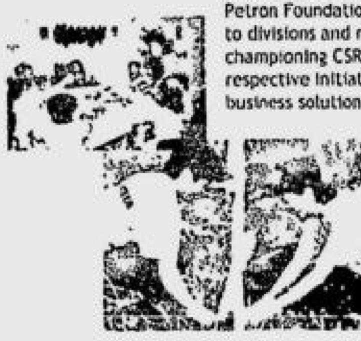
- From strictly observing division-specific agenda to breaking the silos and integrating efforts across the company leading to a strategic corporate response to fight poverty and attain sustainable development



- From providing vocational education and training programs for the youth to enabling high school and college students to have business, entrepreneurship, education, and leadership development to enhance the possibilities for becoming employees or entrepreneurs



- From participating in coastal cleanups in towns in Bataan to spearheading a province-wide integrated coastal management program, as well as encouraging Petron facilities nationwide to initiate pro-environment activities



- From following the lead and being simple participants in Petron Foundation-led programs to divisions and management championing CSR through their respective initiatives and business solutions

## 10 years of Fueling Hope

### 1996

- Petron Foundation was incorporated

### 1997

- Project Joy - a Christmas treat for street children
- Petron employees as advisers to Junior Achievement Philippines (Year 1)
- *Lingap Kapwa* relief operations for natural calamities
- Support to the Manila Youth Symphony Orchestra and Metropolitan Museum

### 1998

- Project Joy (Year 2)
- Petron employees as advisers to Junior Achievement Philippines (Year 2)
- Support to the National Flag Awareness campaign
- Sponsorship of the Ateneo Law School Moot Court and AIM Petron Research Chair The Petroleum Industry
- Support for *Tabang Mindanaw*

### 1999

- *Sa Aklat Sisikat* Reading Program (Year 1)
- Project Joy (Year 3)
- Petron employees as advisers to Junior Achievement Philippines (Year 3)
- *Tsuper Dunong* PUV education program
- Employees support for Children's Hour
- Sponsorship of Probe Productions' Five & Up!
- *Kontra Kalat sa Dagat* coastal cleanup drive
- Publication of Petron book "Dynamic Partnerships: A Fusion of Vision and Power"

### 2000

- *Sa Aklat Sisikat* Reading Program (Year 2)
- Project Joy (Year 4)
- Petron employees as advisers to Junior Achievement Philippines (Year 4)
- Bataan Integrated Coastal Management Program (BICMP) with UNDP
- Institutionalization of the Volunteerism In Action (VIA) program

### 2001

- *Sa Aklat Sisikat* Reading Program (Year 3)
- Project Joy (Year 5)
- Petron employees as advisers to Junior Achievement Philippines (Year 5)
- Teacher Training - Ateneo Center for Educational Development
- Bataan Coastal Care Foundation in support of the BICMP
- Bataan Integrated Coastal Management Program (Year 2)
- Support for the Save the La Mesa Watershed Program

### 2002

- *Tulong Aral ng Petron* Send-a-Child to School Program (Year1)
- Petron School (Year 1)
- *Sa Aklat Sisikat* Reading Program (Year 4)
- Project Joy (Year 6)
- Petron employees as advisers to Junior Achievement Philippines (Year 6)
- Skills Training and Education Program
- Bataan Integrated Coastal Management Program (Year 3)

### 2003

- *Tulong Aral ng Petron* (Year 2)
- Petron School (Year 2)
- *Sa Aklat Sisikat* Reading Program (Year 5)
- Project Joy (Year 7)
- Petron employees as advisers to Junior Achievement Philippines (Year 7)
- Partnership with the Philippine Council of Deans and Educators in Business (Year 1)
- Bataan Integrated Coastal Management Program (Year 4)

### 2004

- *Tulong Aral ng Petron* (Year 3)
- Petron School (Year 3)
- *Tulong Aral ng Petron* casebook
- *Sa Aklat Sisikat* Reading Program (Year 6)
- Project Joy (Year 8)
- Petron employees as advisers to Junior Achievement Philippines (Year 8)
- Partnership with the Philippine Council of Deans and Educators in Business (Year 2)
- Bataan Integrated Coastal Management Program (Year 5)

### 2005

- *Tulong Aral ng Petron* (Year 4)
- Petron School (Year 4)
- *Sa Aklat Sisikat* Reading Program (Year 7)
- Project Joy (Year 9)
- Petron employees as advisers to Junior Achievement Philippines (Year 9)
- *Sa Aklat Sisikat Programang Kaakbay* teacher training
- Youth Entrepreneurship Program
- Petron Fitness and Nature Trail and Petron Amphitheater at the La Mesa Ecopark
- Partnership with the Philippine Council of Deans and Educators in Business (Year 3)
- Bataan Integrated Coastal Management Program (Year 6)
- Launch of Fuel HOPE

### 2006

- *Tulong Aral ng Petron* (Year 5)
- Petron School (Year 5)
- *Sa Aklat Sisikat* Reading Program (Year 8)
- Project Joy (Year 10)
- Petron employees as advisers to Junior Achievement Philippines (Year 10)
- *Petron Gasul Pangkabuhayan* Program
- WIWAG Business Week Program
- Partnership with the Philippine Council of Deans and Educators in Business (Year 4)
- Rebuilding a community in Liloan and San Francisco, Southern Leyte
- Relief Operations
- Child Safety Program
- Youth Entrepreneurship Program
- Bataan Integrated Coastal Management Program (Year 7)
- Fuel HOPE (Year 2)

PETRON FOUNDATION
Fuel Hope
Celebrating 10 years!

It has been a decade since we embarked on a journey to turn our compassion into something tangible and lasting. In that time, we have seen Petron Corporation transform into a world-class business organization and the undisputed leader in the local oil industry. Like the way we run our business, we also think of Corporate Social Responsibility in terms of sustainability. We believe that our future as a company is closely linked with the future of our country.

To this end, we created a centerpiece program called Fuel HOPE or Helping Filipino children and youth Overcome Poverty through Education. Through this, we have gone beyond traditional educational assistance to provide a holistic program to students, parents and teachers and empower the youth to become the country's future business leaders.

After a decade, CSR has become who we are and what we stand for. From the boardroom to our pump attendants, we have made it a part of everything we do. Together with our partners, we have been able to dream big dreams and make them a reality. *Maraming salamat po!*

PETRON
Fuel Success.

# Ayala group aims for focused and strategic CSR

NOT SINCE THE CONCEPT OF the "triple bottom line" was developed in the 1990s has corporate social responsibility gained a firmer foothold in public consciousness. But business leaders know that the success of CSR programs is measured not only by how much has been achieved but also by how well they can stay ahead of the changing needs and expectations of stakeholders.

AYALA Land spearheads many solid waste management projects especially in areas where it operates.

This is why the Ayala group, the country's oldest and most diversified business house, has begun an exhaustive review of all its individual and joint CSR efforts. It aims to understand the extent of its social involvement and to determine new ways to harness synergy and create even greater impact.

Large companies have the vision, resources, and management expertise to see through CSR programs over the long term and on a meaningful scale. Ayala takes advantage of these qualities-built over a 172-year history-to realize social and environmental goals, whether through pure philanthropy or by developing business models that deliver affordable goods and services.

AYALA president Fernando Zobel de Ayala (with Habitat for Humanity International CEO Jonathan Reckford) and chairman Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala are personally committed to worthwhile CSR endeavors such as Habitat and GILAS.

In its 2005 annual report, Ayala describes programs that champion entrepreneurship, advocate quality and values-driven education, establish best practices in caring for the environment, and encourage employee volunteerism and strategic giving. These are undertaken either independently by its subsidiaries and affiliates or through the group's corporate social responsibility arm, the Ayala Foundation. For instance:

- All companies in the Ayala group have at least one program that addresses an education issue-whether by building schools, providing scholarship, servant leadership training, or equipping students with learning tools and technology.
- Bank of the Philippine Islands' various microfinance vehicles and Globe Telecom's Autoload Max are part of these companies' core businesses at the same time serving those who rely mainly on entrepreneurial income.
- From Ayala Land's solid waste management to clean air advocacy of its Honda and Isuzu dealerships to Manila Water's watershed protection and management, the Ayala group's environmental programs seek to ensure sustainable living amidst progress.
- Volunteer activities and donation drives for noteworthy causes like Habitat for Humanity and disaster relief operations are strongly supported by employees and companies. Integrated Microelectronics gave close to P1 million, its biggest donation, to Children's Hour last year.

In addition, Ayala companies build on their synergy to scale up CSR efforts. Ayala Land and Globe Telecom helped establish the Center of Excellence in Public Elementary Education, a school for gifted, underprivileged children, in Manila and Batangas. The entire group "adopted" two communities in Mandaluyong, empowering them with a development package including access to potable water, health services, and livelihood funding and training, among others.

More recently, Ayala chairman and CEO Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala rallied Ayala Land, Globe Telecom, and Integrated Microelectronics to support GILAS, or Gearing Up Internet Literacy and Access for Students, a nationwide multi-sector endeavor to bring Internet access to all Philippine public high schools in five years. Ayala Foundation helps manage the program by serving as secretariat of GILAS.

The Ayala group continues to monitor and evaluate its CSR programs as well as stakeholder issues that affect its operations. By being focused and strategic in CSR as well as in business, Ayala believes that it can be a more effective catalyst for social development.

GLOBE Telecom's Autoload Max is a business line that is accessible to microentrepreneurs.

# Inquirer social initiatives take CSR to heart

**By Connie R. Kalagayan**

THE INQUIRER CHAMPION'S CAUSES RELATED TO children and youth, health, education and the environment. It has not only inspired action through its journalism but has also directly participated and partnered with some of the biggest organizations in community development in its belief that they are truly agents of change that can inspire society to take action and be involved.

The Inquirer partners with Linis-Ganda Inc. by promoting the benefits of waste segregation by buying, collecting and recycling old newspapers to help minimize the demand of wood pulp. The Inquirer is the first newspaper to use organic soy-based ink and recycled paper. Our annual newspaper drive not only promotes solid waste management in the Philippines but also allows us to recycle old newspapers nine times into reusable newsprint or newspaper. To date, more than 400,000 kilos of old newspapers have been recycled, thus, saving over 6,000 trees.

In December 2005, in celebration of its 20th anniversary, the Inquirer unveiled 20 life-sized fiberglass Guyito sculptures, done by Juan Sajid Imao and painted by 20 renowned Filipino artists based on the anniversary theme "The Power of Knowing." The 20 sculptures will be donated to 20 selected cities/municipalities nationwide. The cities were chosen based on their public high schools' rankings in the regional Finals of the Quiz Bee Competition. Starting June, Inquirer will visit the 20 selected schools/cities to turn over the sculptures and conduct journalism workshop. The workshop will feature prominent Inquirer journalists who will share their expertise to the students. "Through these projects, we hope to inspire the young to value reading and use it as a tool to attaining their dreams," Sandy Prieto-Romualdez, Inquirer president said.

Throughout the years, the Inquirer has provided support and assistance to partners such as Children's Hour Philippines Inc., a fund-rising and grant-giving organization that taps individuals and companies to donate one hour's worth of their earnings to programs committed to the welfare of marginalized Filipino children. Since 1999, Children's Hour has raised over P118 million in cash and services and has supported over 122 projects nationwide, directly improving the lives of 185,000 children.

Hands On Manila, on the other hand, is committed to empowering individuals to act as citizens and realize their ability to contribute to the community through flexible and tangible volunteer opportunities to effectively serve the community.

Aside from its active participation in the League of Corporate Foundations' annual Corporate Social Responsibility Week and the Philippine Business for Social Progress, Inquirer has also actively supported Tabang Mindanaw, World Wildlife Fund (WWF), Habitat for Humanity, Tour of the Fireflies, GMA Kapuso Foundation, ABS-CBN Bantay Kalikasan, Give Asia/Youth Aid, Metrobank Foundation Inc., National Youth Commission, Coalition Against Counterfeit Medicines, and recently the Coalition Against the Bird Flu Virus on their information/awareness campaign.

All of these social initiatives have the meaningful goal of making a difference in the everyday life of Filipinos. By our definition, social responsibility is not a cosmetic issue, but one that cuts to the very core of the company. The Inquirer and its partners do it in a rigorous and committed fashion, and it means doing it right now.

"Ang gusto ko sa almusal, tanghalian, hapunan at midnight snack ay boses ni love."

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# CSR, from the CEOs' point of view

**By Joel V. Nigos**

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY is understood, defined and implemented differently from company to company. Once a tool for commercial success through philanthropy, it went on to make significant contributions to alleviate societal ills through civil society partnerships and collaboration, and finally to be fully integrated with the company's core values and business processes.

But for a company to sustain a program in the long-term, it should be supported by the institutions that endorsed it. The key is to make it part of the corporate culture-that it goes down from top management to middle management to rank and file.

The League of Corporate Foundation believes that CSR works with this principle and regards it as one of its main challenges. To make CSR truly sustainable, the entry point is through the CEOs. If the CEOs are not convinced of its importance, then it will be difficult to cascade CSR down the corporation.

The following presents company CEO's perspectives on CSR. For some, they view treating employees well as CSR. For others, they regard it as part of business strategy and principles, or to enhance its relationships with stakeholders. Often, CEOs relate CSR with entrepreneurship or part of the Filipino culture.

### CSR is about treating employees well

A common understanding among the CEOs is that CSR begins with the family-the immediate family and extended family. Eventually, employees become a part of that extended family followed by the communities that they serve. All the CEOs believe that CSR should first and foremost be about treating their employees well-making sure that every worker has a chance to achieve. As stated by Vic Villegas of MAP: "Profit is not the main purpose of business; it is the enabling power to achieve the fundamental purpose of business, which is to enable human development and service to society at large."

CEOs of companies without corporate foundations or specific CSR programs, meanwhile, commented that social responsibility-by the word "social" and the association with giving-is more of a philanthropic concept rather than uplifting or raising the psychological independence and the ability to be self-reliant.

Another comment that emerged was that though the first responsibility of a company is to take care of its business, once you have a CSR structure in place, you will be able to continue doing CSR "regardless of company performance." Once CSR is integrated in the core business, then CSR programs become much easier to accomplish. It is also believed that CSR is a strategic management tool that all companies must learn to integrate with their operations if they are to develop a sustainable model of trust in the many communities they serve.

One of the confusions though about defining CSR is that some companies assume that this is an "after-profit" obligation. This means that if companies are not profitable then they do not have to prioritize developing CSR programs. But by embedding socially responsible principles or integrating CSR into the core business, then CSR values and principles come even before expectations of profit arise. This is evident in the business principles of young CEOs and entrepreneurs in large or multinational corporations who have already integrated CSR in their business. More than just a form of giving, CSR became a part of their corporate culture.

### CSR as part of business strategy and principles

A strong advocacy of the LCF is to embed CSR into the core business of each company and make it a part of business strategy. Once a purely philanthropic activity, CSR has moved from strategic philanthropy to multi-sectoral partnerships or collaboration.

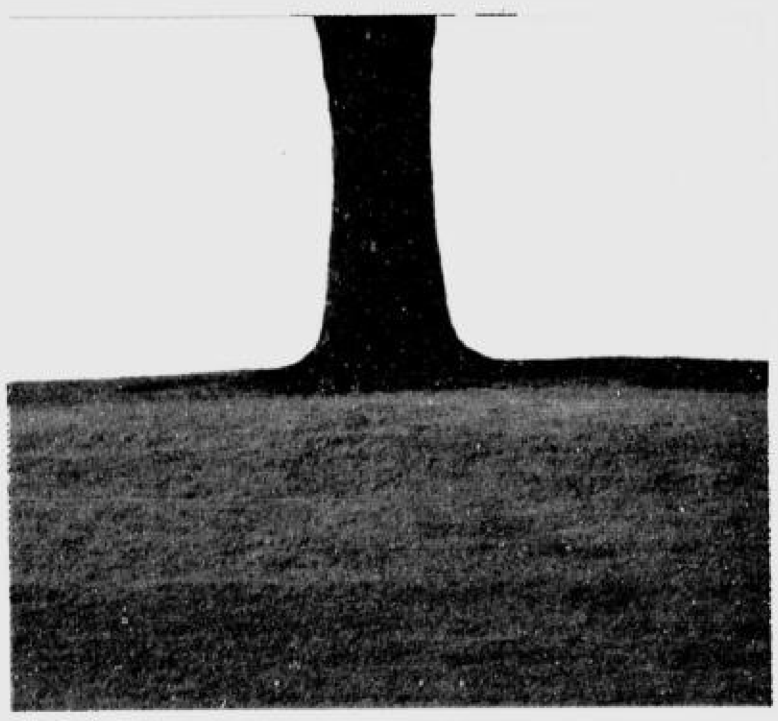
"It is important for a business to set out its principles and aspirations for behaving responsibly. But for these to be of any real value, they must be supported by a corporate culture that is committed to put those principles into practice. We believe that by setting the highest stan-

CSR/ E2

*League of Corporate Foundations*

CSR EXPO'06

Let's take CSR to heart.



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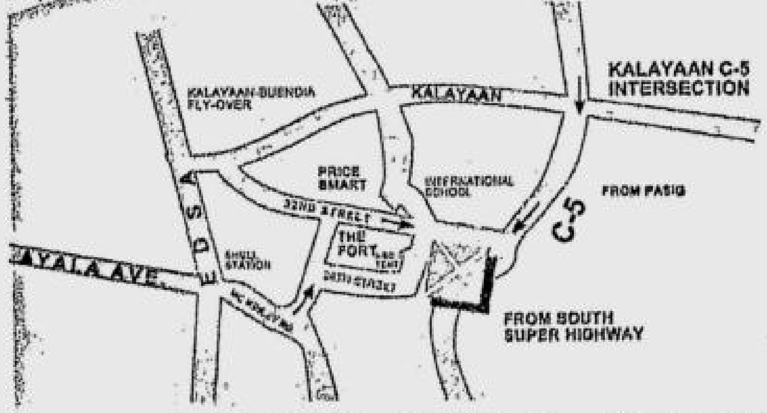

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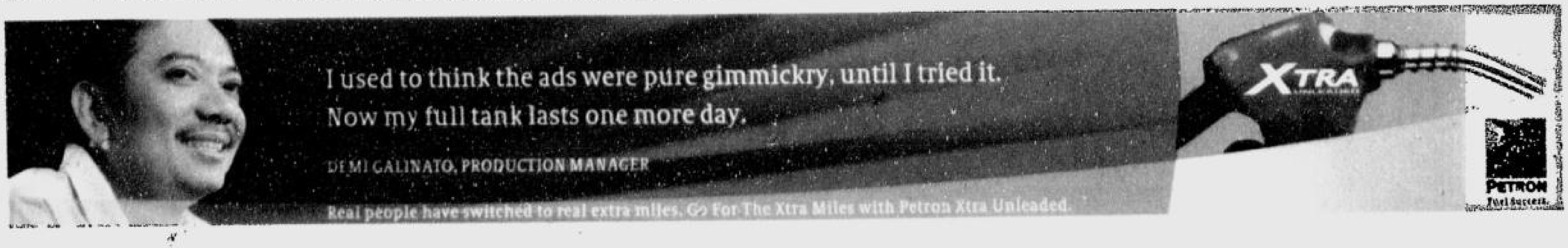

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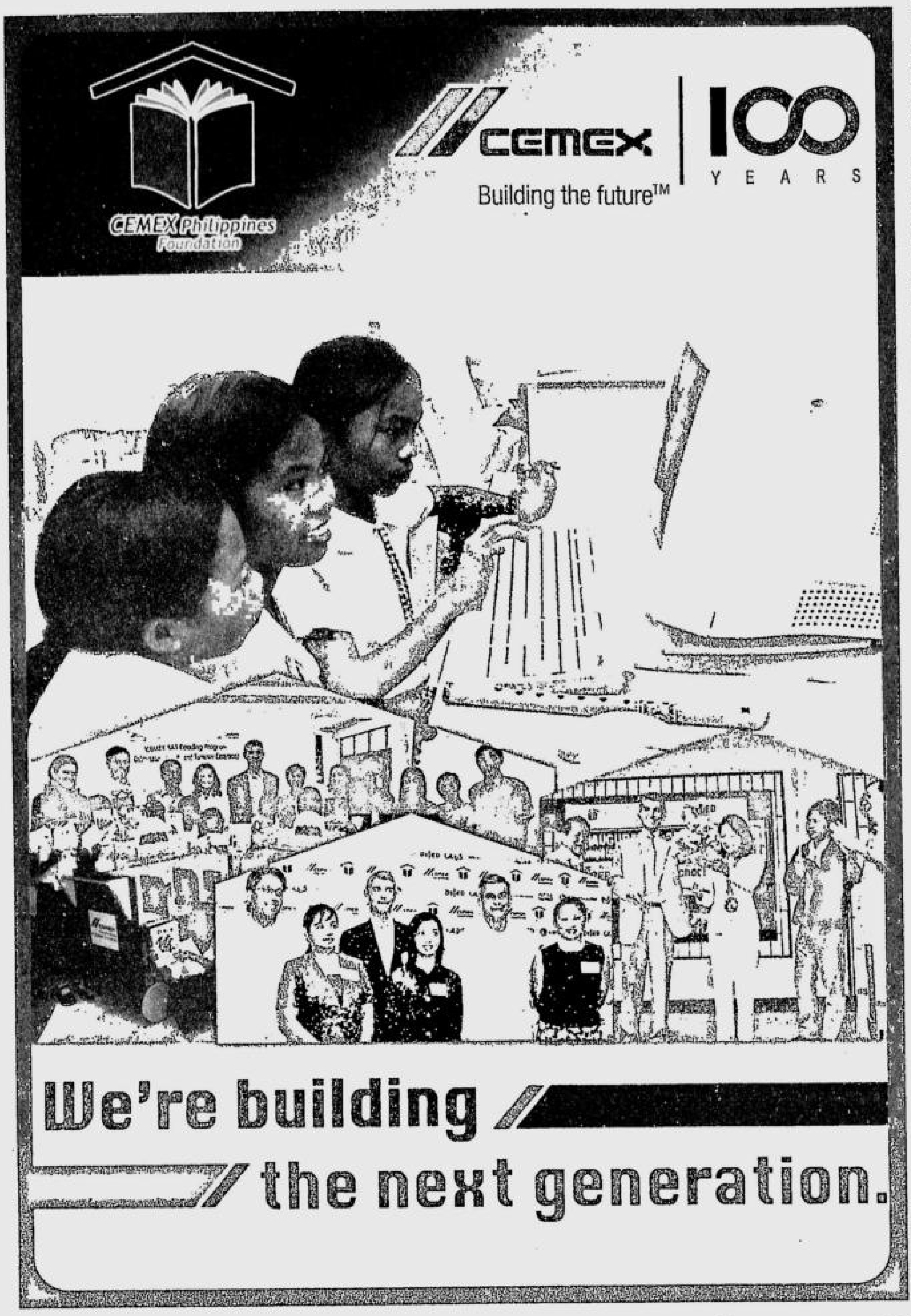
# CSR, from the CEOs point of view

From page E1



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dards of behavior and valuing the people who work in our organization, and by making profits, it helped us to create a sustainable business that delivers value to our shareholders," shares Edgardo O. Chua, country chairman of Shell Philippines.

Jose P. Leviste Jr., Mirant Philippines chairman, president and CEO, on the other hand, believes that the first step toward national development and global competitiveness is through quality education that is available for all. "Education empowers us as individuals, as Filipinos and as a nation," he shares.

Each company has a specific goal and purpose for doing CSR. Providing the private sector solutions for public sector concerns is at the core of each corporation or foundation's CSR thrust. Issues such as health, education, housing, finance, entrepreneurship, environmental protection and preservation, and livelihood development are identified by the respondents as priority areas in their respective CSR programs. Almost all companies have programs with multi-sector partnerships, which enable their CSR programs to reach more communities and beneficiaries.

But the key to achieve long-term and sustainable programs is to embed CSR. Although this does not happen overnight, taking a step towards achieving this is by strategically aligning CSR programs to corporate strengths and objectives. Take the case of Meralco Millennium Foundation Inc., the corporate social responsibility arm of Meralco. With over four million customers nationwide, determining how to shape their CSR program was a challenge. At the same time, they could not ignore many issues and concerns concerning their corporate services. Meralco began to identify priority areas for community development by identifying areas with high incidences of electricity pilferage. A number of the Gawad Kalinga Sibol Schools built by Meralco are located in these areas. While investing in social development and improving the lives of the community, public awareness and knowledge about Meralco was improved through dialogues and seminars on the right use of electricity and electrical safety.

Splash Corp, which manufactures beauty and health products, supports a livelihood program for women who want to provide beauty services in their communities. Materials and training are all provided. Diwa Learning Systems Inc, the leading provider of school-based educational materials, meanwhile, focused its CSR on the improvement of Philippine education. Many of its products-sold to private schools-are donated to public schools. Its corporate foundation, Bato Balani Foundation Inc is likewise focused solely on education.

### Relationship with stakeholders and CSR

Many of the respondents also encourage their suppliers and clients to participate in their respective CSR programs, thus, improving communications and efficiency within their supply chain. SPI, a business outsourcing services company, involves its clients in its CSR programs. Their visiting client's first agenda, upon arriving in the country, is attending CSR activities and programs.

Figaro, on the other hand, believes in developing relationships with their suppliers. "The Figaro approach was driven by business savvy to encourage a respectful demand for the 'Barako' [and] to directly [extend] the benefit to the coffee farmers," Figaro CEO Chit Juan says. "But beyond the success story is a pronounced expression of the value of corporate social responsibility to Figaro. Our CSR program represents a business decision that has helped us address the sustainability of the coffee supply for our business."

Employees likewise are encouraged to participate in CSR as part of their volunteerism activities and to strengthen the company's commitment to CSR by providing a dedicated and active workforce. Examples of activities include mentoring, infrastructure (building homes, school buildings), school-based programs such as teacher volunteer hours and story telling, mangrove rehabilitation and other employee-initiated CSR programs.

"CSR is a strategic business imperative. It allows us to achieve commercial success in ways that bring about positive and lasting changes in the workplace, the community and the environment, CSR is everybody's business," says Nicasio I. Alcantara, chair of Petron Corp.

Thus, CSR and the commitment to CSR is continuing to grow as more and more CEOs and companies begin to realize the importance and value of CSR as a way of life and not just as a means to be more competitive, or as a part of a corporation's business strategy.

Shares Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala, chair of Ayala Corp: "CSR is doing your business responsibly. It is going beyond compliance to the law, [by] becoming the supplier [or] service provider of choice (provision of quality goods and services), employer of choice (fair to employees, compliance with labor laws) and neighbor of choice (going beyond business to serve their communities through corporate citizenship)."

### Entrepreneurship and CSR

An interesting finding among young CEOs is that despite having the impression that CSR is only for big businesses, they actually have CSR programs integrated with their business processes. They don't realize, however, that what they have been doing is already a part of CSR. Most have integrated CSR as part of their supply chain in order to improve business operations. Since the entrepreneur is in control of the whole business operation, CSR lives in the entrepreneur from the very beginning though sometimes it is not identified as CSR.

Such is the case of Binalot. Part of the company's program is to provide support in terms of training and technological development to banana leaves producers. In so doing, they were able to acquire a steady supply of banana leaves-an essential material for their business-while helping farmers create sustainable businesses.

One firm though was more forward thinking since they already started a foundation the day they began their operations. Les Reyes, CEO of Reyes Haircutters, set up a foundation where a percentage of his profit immediately went to the foundation, enabling him to help his employees and those who were in need of his help. This move ensured that whether the company was profitable or not, there would always be a fund available-a key element in creating effective CSR programs.

The entrepreneurial culture brings a corporate mindset that brings CSR to the core. The willingness is there, but the tools to structure and to make CSR more sustainable are what these young CEOs need. Despite their youth and the relative inexperience in "big business," many of these young entrepreneurs exhibit business decisions and business strategies that show wisdom beyond their years.

### Filipino culture and CSR

With regards to the role being played by Filipino culture in Philippine corporate social responsibility, most CEOs believe that CSR stems from our culture. For them giving is inherent in us. That's just the way Filipinos are.

Says Bienvenido Tan, CEO of Bookmark: "We're doing CSR because we feel we have to do it. We don't feel it is important to follow regulatory guidelines because as long as we are giving, then we are achieving our objectives." Tan further believes that everything comes from God that it has to be given back, a value that's very close to the Filipino heart.

CSR is also seen as part of a paternalistic view of management-about taking care of your employees as though you are taking care of your family, thus; creating a wholesome atmosphere for the employees. Shares Owen Gan of Heaven and Eggs: "Employees need to feel they are part of the family and that we are on their side and that we will protect them no matter what happens."

But beyond these Filipino traits, CEOs also believe that CSR is also about human values, that is, being able to share to the less fortunate, being kind to others, and being a responsible individual.

"CSR is about giving back to the communities that we serve, sharing with the less fortunate and being able to help our fellow countrymen. CSR of the past was more of just philanthropy. But over the years, it has taken on a different meaning-all good citizens should be involved in social responsibility. It is not something that you do to enhance your corporate image, it goes deeper than that," says Manuel M. Lopez, chairman of Meralco.

*Research conducted by Lydia Sarmiento-Enrile and Natalie Christine Jorge of the LCF Research Committee.*

Making A DIFFERENCE:
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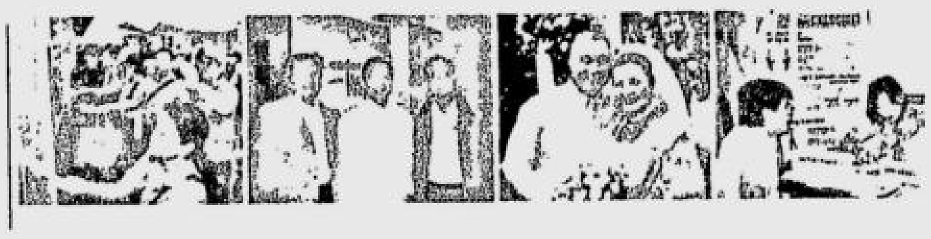
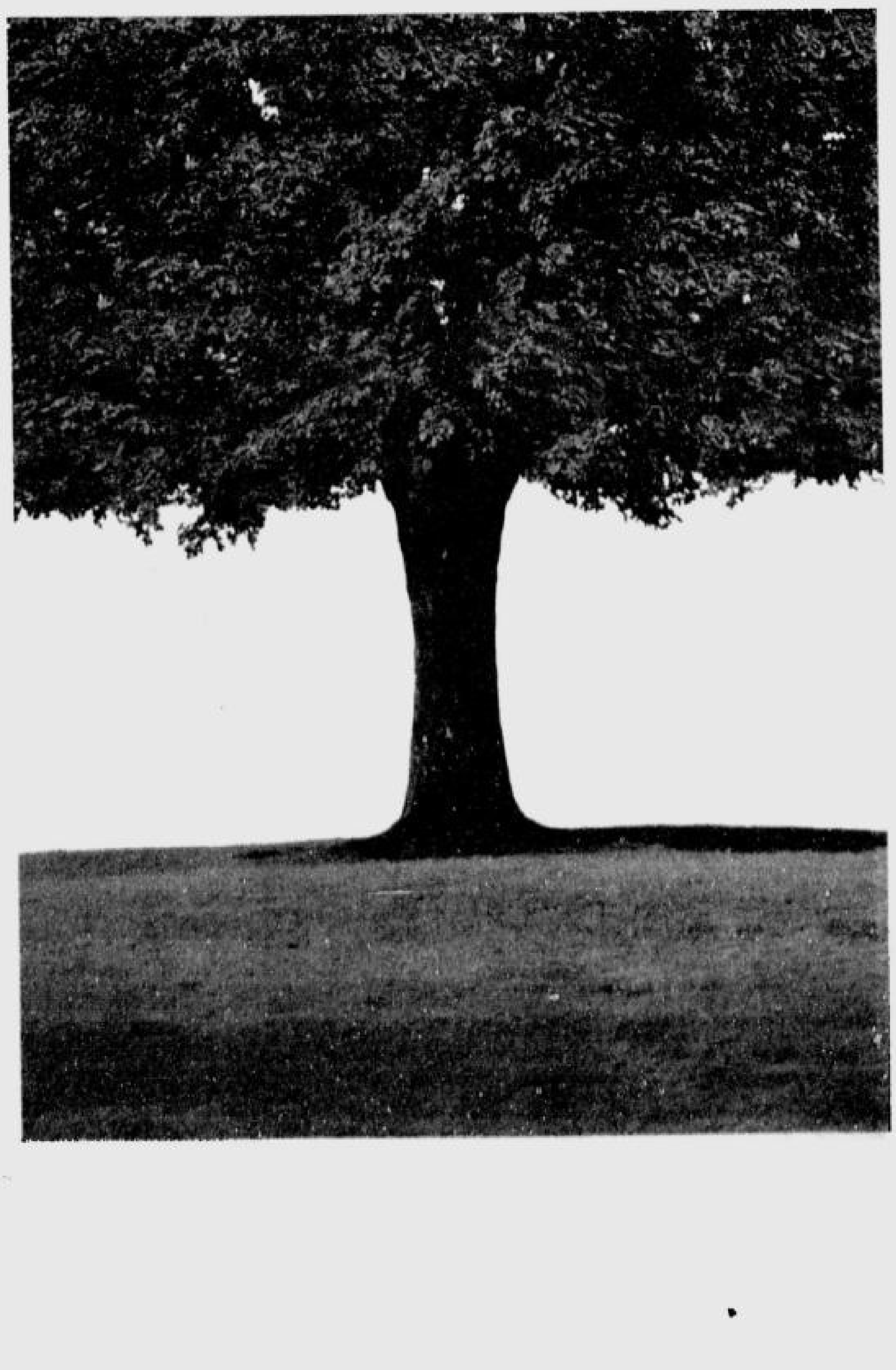




# Gawad Kalinga and Insular Life: Together in nation-building

"THEY HAD THREE YEARS OF VALUES FORMATION before they started building houses in January. This is the reason the Kapitbahayan spirit is evident in GK Sunshineville."

Such were the words of Gawad Kalinga South C Head, Bogs Luarca, while touring the Insular Life representatives who conducted an ocular inspection of the GK Sunshineville in BF Resort, Las Piñas one March morning.

It was important for the GK Sunshineville residents to undergo an intensive community values formation to instill in their hearts and minds the significance of acting as a community to realize their dreams of a self-reliant and empowered neighborhood.

Fast forward to two and a half months after when the GK Sunshineville Kapitbahayan Neighborhood Association welcomed to its community the employee-volunteers of Insular Life. Led by its president and COO Mayo Jose B. Ongsingco, the volunteers would help build the four Insular Life-sponsored houses. This year was the company's third GK Build. The previous years, employee-volunteers also helped in the construction of houses in GK Samata also in Las Piñas, and in GK Sison in Muntinlupa.

Upon reaching the site on May 29, the volunteers immediately saw the pink-clad ladies of GK Sunshineville. They prepared a hero's welcome for the volunteers, and even held a short program which began with a simple prayer, an introduction to the community, and a few dance numbers from the Sibol (preschool kids), Sagip (grade school kids), Siga teeners, and Kapitbahayan mothers. From then on, until the culmination of the week-long build on June 3, the GK Sunshineville residents were just too happy and eager to have visitors working, and even dancing side by side with them.

Insular Life volunteers, for their part, also enjoyed their build days in Sunshineville. Maricor Baron and Malot Tigolo, two of Insular Life's veteran GK volunteers, share their experience.

"You will really feel that you are welcome in their community. The kapitbahayan welcomed us upon our arrival. It was fun because they even had a welcome program. It was also fun working with the members of the Couples for Christ," Baron says.

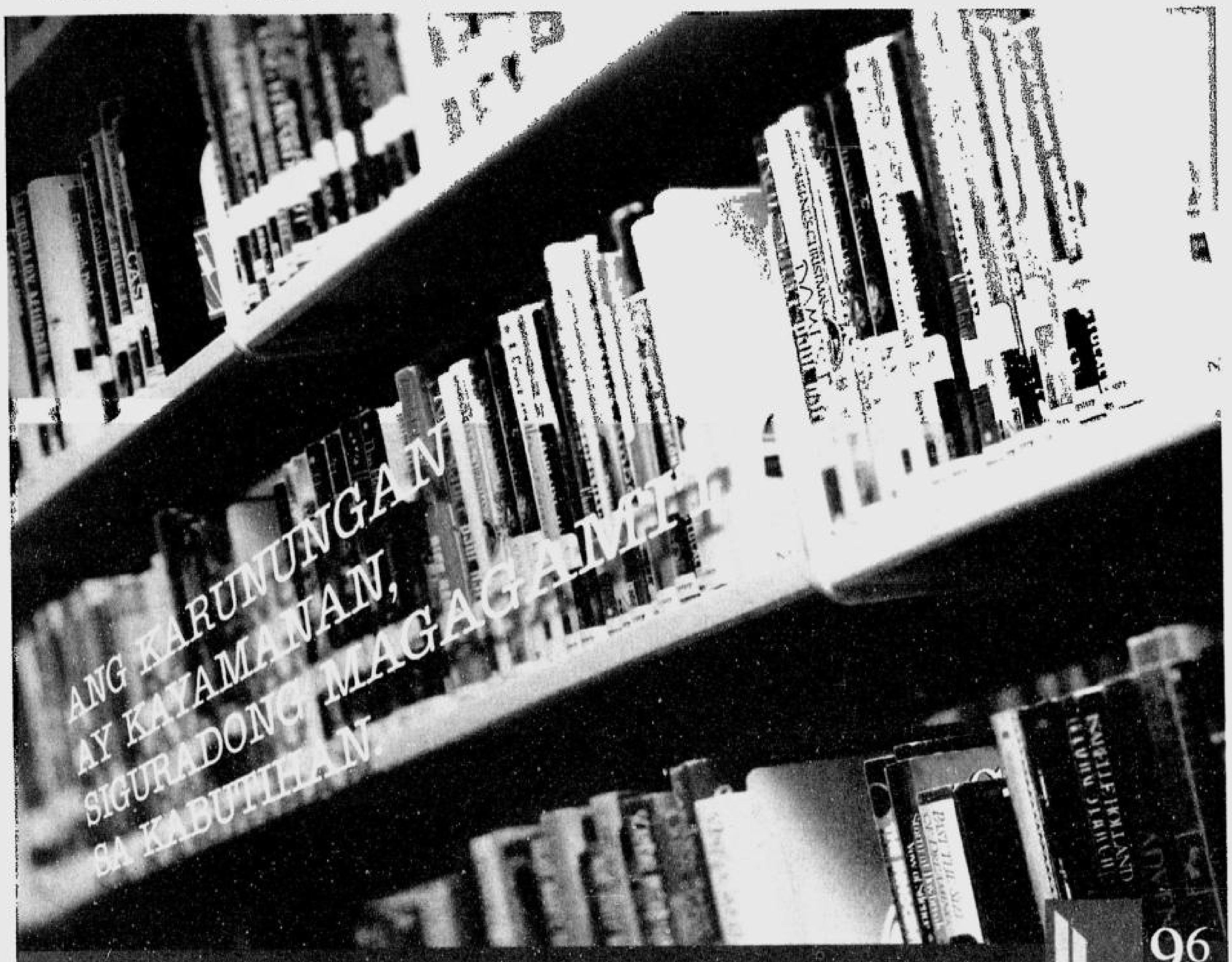
Tigolo echoes Baron's experience. "I was moved when the little girl introduced their community, and my resolve to be a GK volunteer became stronger. I felt that what I was going to do that day had a deeper meaning. I was happy and proud that I was an Insular Life employee because out of the 92 houses for construction, we were one of the first to donate houses."

Claire Condrillon, a first-time GK volunteer shares how she felt it was divine providence working at Sunshineville. "I really had fun and I felt that one of my dreams was fulfilled again. I had been longing to check that community because one rainy day, a drenched little boy in school uniform was walking and I offered him a ride. He refused, telling me he was all wet. I told him that it was not a problem, so he got in the car. When I asked him where he was getting off, well, he got off on the same site where we are building our GK homes. Providence? I felt blessed."

Another GK veteran, Gabby Ocampo shares how GK can transform not just the lives of the beneficiaries, but also those who volunteer to help.

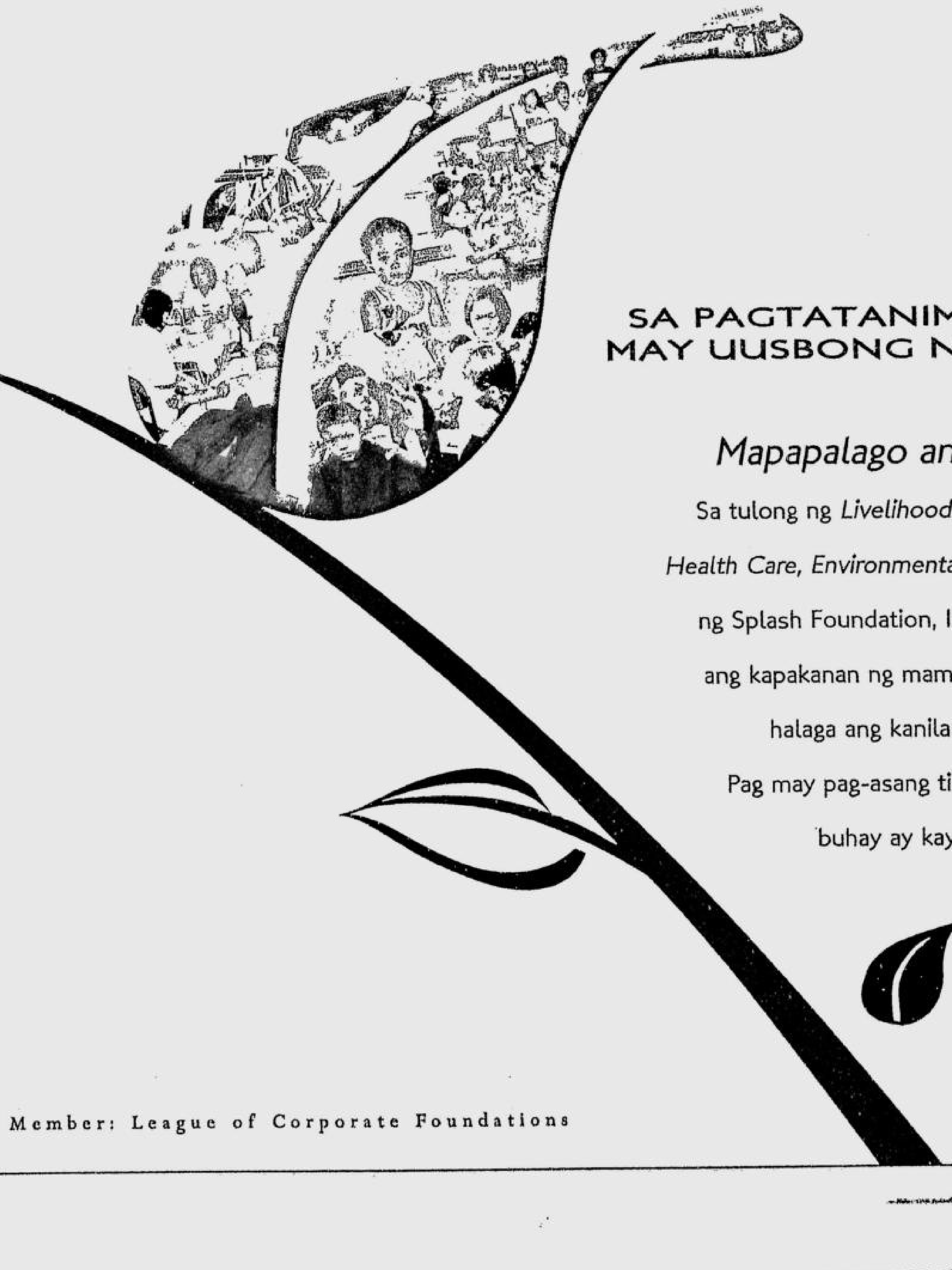
"The people in Sunshineville really deserve our help. They have proven to us that there is hope for our country. If all are like them, who work well, happily, and most of all, conscious of their values, our lives will really prosper. I am happy that our company is taking part in fulfilling God's plan: to uplift the lives of the poor. We are not just donating funds; our efforts have deeper meaning because now we understand the importance of what we are doing to help the less fortunate."

Indeed, it is amazing what three years of painstaking values formation could do to a community. Meanwhile, by being part of the Gawad Kalinga, Insular Life volunteers not only got the chance to do something for the underprivileged in our society, they also helped fulfill the company's mission of supporting the government in the task of nation-building.



Sa halos isandaang taon, itinuturing naming pinakamalaking yaman ang aming mga natutunan. Tulad ng kahalagahan ng pagtupad sa mga kasunduan - may krisis o kaguluhan man. Tiwala kaming ito'y magagamit para sa iyong kabutihan. Yan ang pangako ng Insular Life - ang pinakamalaking Filipino life insurance company. **May pinagdaanan, may patutunguhan.**

96 years
INSULAR LIFE



SA PAGTATANIM NG PAG-ASA,
MAY UUSBONG NA KAKAYAHAN.

*Mapapalago ang kabuhayan.*

Sa tulong ng *Livelihood, Community Service, Health Care, Environmental* at *Education* programs ng Splash Foundation, Inc., mapapangalagaan ang kapakanan ng mamamayan. Mabibigyang halaga ang kanilang kakayahan. Pag may pag-asang tinanim, masaganang buhay ay kayang anihin.

SPLASH
FOUNDATION, INC.
Pagtulong sa Kapwa, *Pagsulong ng Bansa.*

Member: League of Corporate Foundations

# Splash Foundation empowers underprivileged with sustainable programs

IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN THE GOAL OF THE Splash Corp to reach out to the masses: From the products it manufactures and made affordable to consumers, to the projects and programs it creates for the underprivileged members of the community.

The conception of Splash Foundation Inc (SFI), through its founders, Drs. Rolando and Rosalinda Hortaleza was geared not only to help Filipinos improve their lives but also to empower them to believe in themselves.

In 1997, about the time Splash Corp has become a household name in every Filipino household, Splash Foundation is slowly making a huge dent in the corporate social responsibility area.

From that day on, SFI has made a commitment to give back to the community where it does business, and reaching even in far-flung areas in the country where they could extend their expertise in the beauty business.

From livelihood programs, the foundation has evolved to creating large-scale projects to further elevate the social status of its beneficiaries.

SFI sees that education is a powerful tool to ease poverty in the country. Its most recent projects which is in line with its successful programs in the past gives scholarship grants to the youth who want to study but their parents cannot send them to college.

Karunungan, Kaunlaran ng Bayan paves the way for students to obtain a degree in Pharmacy. And because Splash Corp has revolutionized beauty business in the country, the scholarship also helps students to study Cosmetic Science. The deserving students need not worry about the tuition and miscellaneous fees and monthly allowance as these are covered by the grant. To top it all, they are assured of a good education in respected universities like University of Sto. Tomas, University of the Philippines, and Centro Escolar University.

Taking the foundation's programs to a higher level, it steps up its education programs with the setting up of an Interactive Literacy Program. Here, select children in the elementary level, and are residents of Canumay, Valenzuela City, get the chance to study in a different kind of environment with a different structured educational classes.

It has always been the objective of the foundation that the help it will extend to needy members of the community would be sustainable. This is evident in every projects and programs it creates.

Its initial livelihood project has indeed come a long way. Now a much sought-after training in different parts of the country, the Ganda Mo, Hanapbuhay Ko (GMHK) has trained a total of 7,000 women, 70 percent of whom are independently earning through home service. Others have gone to seek employment in other salons. A part of them has utilized all they learned in the five-day cosmetology seminar and has become their ticket to working in other countries.

GMHK not only gives training but also help the successful participants through a start-up kit which includes all the necessities in basic cosmetology that would allow them to do home service.

SFI has well-thought of these projects. Basic cosmetology has guaranteed customers in the neighborhood.

"This is very practical," says Maurice Ligot, COO and managing director of Splash Foundation Inc. "There is a big market for them because people need a haircut and would allow a bit of personal beautifying every now and then."

"We empower women, especially the unemployed, by building their skills capability, making them entrepreneurs in their own right.

"We intend to reach out to as many women as we can."

This program has become widely successful not only of the help extended. Kumusta Na is part of GMHK but this one tracks down the performance and progress of the beneficiaries.

To further boost their confidence, the foundation also conceptualized Libreng Gupit which is sort of their pay back as well as pay it forward to the community. Children from select schools are given free hair cut by the successful graduates.

Aside from these two successful sustainable programs of SFI, it also conducts regular free medical, dental, and surgical missions to barangays in Valenzuela and Novaliches with the Katawan Pangalagaan Program.

Lunas Sakit or the Child Hospitalization Assistance Management Program reaches out to charity pediatric patients confined at the Philippine General Hospital, the East Avenue Medical Center, and the Valenzuela General Hospital. It provides free medicine to the patients from the day of referral until recommended for discharge.

SFI's commitment to its social responsibility has been elevated to a higher level with its partnership with some government institutions. To reach a larger scope of the poor, SFI also partners with Government agencies through their adopted communities like the National Housing Authority, the Kalahi communities of the National Anti-Poverty Commission. The training has also included the wives of military enlisted men in several regions across the country.

All these efforts by Splash Corp and SFI are recognized when it was cited by the former President Corazon Aquino's People Power Movement for providing a sense of hope, empowerment and love of country to a higher goal of empowerment and commitment. The city government of Valenzuela has also recognized SFI as the Best Corporate Foundation for 2004.

"Helping people, making a difference and creating an impact in their lives is very, very fulfilling," said Ligot.

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NEWSPAPER DRIVE PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

## THE ZUELLIG FOUNDATION'S AVIAN FLU PROJECT

# *Preparing the business sector for the flu pandemic*

IN THE EVENT OF A FLU PANDEMIC, THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION has outlined a worst case scenario wherein at least 25 percent of the population in every country will contract influenza from a mutated, highly virulent form of the H5N1 virus. There will be a significant disruption to all elements of society and a general downturn of business as more than half of the workforce will not be available to attend work: twenty five percent will be ill and 25 percent will stay home, too frightened to venture outdoors. Ten percent of those who get sick will die, while the rest will be very sick and unable to work for at least one month. This will have a major impact on all aspects of a company's value chain and on its stakeholders. In fact, the Asian Development Bank estimates that a flu pandemic could cost the Asian region as much as US$300 billion in lost GDP.

While the marshalling of the international community's formidable scientific, technological and government resources to combat the threat of a pandemic has made the possibility of this worst case scenario coming to pass remote, it is still clearly incumbent upon business to prepare for just such a scenario, as return of investment to company shareholders is paramount at all times. And because maintaining company reputation and exercising Corporate Social Responsibility are central to business survival and growth, this contingency planning process is particularly crucial for several industry groups that cannot stop the delivery of critical services and products: power and gas, food, water, telecommunications, transportation, security, banking and healthcare.

Company CEOs and management teams must find ways to continue critical operations and address practical business concerns:

- Human resources issues, e.g., what to do if employees can't come to work because they're sick; what to do if workers won't come because they're too scared; how to validate sick leaves; how to motivate workers to continue working when there is fear; how to protect employees and their families from contracting flu; how to get fillers for key positions; how to promote hygiene in the workplace; how to provide medical services to sick employees; what policies and procedures to implement in the event of employee death, etc.
- Financial issues, e.g., what to do if banks are closed during the pandemic period; what to do if the company is not liquid enough to pay workers; what to do if suppliers have delivered but the company cannot pay; what to do if the company wants to produce but suppliers have stopped deliveries; what to do if prices go up to astronomical levels, etc.
- Identifying essential and non-essential day-to-day operations, and making sure that they can continue for several weeks during a pandemic.
- Legal issues, e.g., defaulting on deliveries as stipulated in contracts.
- Travel policy issues.
- Policies and procedures on working from home.
- Provision of security at company premises, e.g., in the event of looting, chaos in the streets.
- Partnership with government authorities, including planning what to do in the event of disruption in the delivery of essential government services like sanitation, water, electricity, public health, and food supply.
- Engaging and looking after the community where the company operates.

The process is called Business Continuity Planning (BCP) - ensuring that essential business functions can survive a natural disaster, technological failure, human error, or other disruption. In recent times, assuring business continuity has also meant planning for terrorist-related biological, chemical or nuclear attacks, and now, most significantly, for a flu pandemic. Companies must prepare for the pandemic, implement a response plan during the declared pandemic alert stage, and have a recovery plan after the event.

Since the fourth quarter of 2005 the Zuellig Foundation has been running its Avian Flu Project to contribute to the national government's bird flu and pandemic flu awareness efforts, and to catalyze a concerted private sector preparation for the possibility of a new influenza pandemic. For its first activity, it organized with the Makati Business Club and the Corporate Network for Disaster Response a BCP forum titled 'Avian Flu: Preparing for a Pandemic in the Philippines' on October 25 at the Ateneo Professional Schools in Makati City. The event, which had over two hundred (200) senior management, human resources and administration officials from the country's top corporations in attendance, provided participants a briefing on avian influenza and highlighted the key concerns that companies need to address in order to prepare for a potential pandemic. Since then, the Foundation has been working with colleagues from the Department of Health, the National Avian Influenza Task Force, the World Health Organization, and the private sector to bring the forum to more business organizations and local communities.

The Foundation is likewise currently collaborating with fellow-members of the League of Corporate Foundations on plans to strategically channel various private sector resources towards the national government's bird flu detection and pandemic preparedness activities.

# Corporate Network for Disaster Response

CNDR IS A NETWORK OF BUSINESS groups and associations whose objective is to rationalize and institutionalize disaster management efforts from the business and NGO community during times of disasters. CNDR specializes in disaster prevention, mitigation and preparedness as well as emergency response.

CNDR assists its members in the development of appropriate disaster response programs for implementation, research and publication and information exchange with established disaster agencies, member corporations and foundations.

CNDR helps its members create venues to raise awareness on disasters and encourage participation from other non-member organizations and/or corporations. CNDR also assists in the formulation of member-specific interventions in disaster situations.

In the event of disaster, the network is mobilized to conduct damage assessments, source relief goods and financial resources from donors. CNDR helps in organizing and coordinating the flow of relief goods and efforts and in the distribution of goods in coordination with the Local Government Units and NGOs based in the communities targeted for assistance. Its projects also include disaster monitoring, volunteer mobilization during emergencies, formation of disaster volunteer teams among member organizations, publication of emergency response guidelines, systematization of emergency response, conduct of donors' forum and emergency situation briefing, and provision of food and non-food relief items.

CNDR also aims to lead its members and partners towards the framework of community-based disaster preparedness. The network is currently implementing disaster preparedness projects in the communities of Dingalan in Aurora Province, Calabanga in Camarines Sur Province and St. Bernard in Southern Leyte Province. Said projects are implemented with pooled funds from Bloomberg UK, Fluor-Daniel Philippines, Microsoft, Johnson & Johnson, BPI Foundation, CARE Philippines, and the American Chamber of Commerce, among others.

CNDR's current efforts also include managing three permanent resettlement sites in Pampanga for 750 households intended for victims of the 1991 Mt. Pinatubo eruption.

Other advocacies undertaken by CNDR include preparedness for pandemic and terrorist acts where it encourages the business sector to take on business contingency planning as a major contribution to the nation's preparedness for such events.

To date, the Network continues to mobilize the business sector in the spirit of corporate sector involvement towards mitigating the effects of disasters on, and responding to the emergency needs of, the vulnerable sectors of the society.